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SUMMARY.

The latest estimates are that 106,700 people perished in Messina. Included among the dead are all the prominent citizens.

The death-roll from the earthquake in Sicily and Calabria will exceed 120,000.

Many people are said to be starving at Messina and Reggio, owing to the difficulty of approach by sea and land.

Numbers are still pinned beneath the ruins, and are groaning piteously.

Survivors describe Messina as a gigantic dust heap. Only a few thousands of the inhabitants escaped.

Out of 100 post-office employees, only six were saved. The military garrison was reduced to a small number.

Fires have broken out afresh at Messina. There is great scarcity of water, owing to the destruction of the aqueduct.

The American consulate collapsed. It is feared that the Consul and his wife were killed.

King Victor Emmanuel is helping to direct the rescue work at Messina.

Queen Elena is visiting the injured aboard the ships in the harbour.

Refugees from Reggio report that the greater part of the city is in ruins.

Most of the public buildings, including the barracks, have fallen. Hundreds of troops were killed.

There are 1000 dead at Bagnara, 26 miles north of Reggio.

Hundreds of people who were injured at Messina have been brought to Naples.

The military warehouses in Rome have been emptied of clothing, blankets, and provisions, which have been sent to Sicily.

Thirty people were suffocated at the Trinheria Hotel, Messina, while attempting to escape.

The weather in Europe is unusually severe. There have been scores of deaths from exposure in England and France.

The Scottish express was snowed in at Drumlithie, Kincardineshire, and was not dug out till men had been at work 28 hours.

Shipbuilding on the Clyde during 1908 showed the greatest shrinkage for 23 years.

The Berlin correspondent of the Paris "Matin" states that there is marked coolness between the German Emperor and Prince Bulow.

They rarely have interviews, and these are restricted to politics. The Emperor did not send the Chancellor his usual Christmas gift.

Burns cables to the London "Sporting Life" that Johnson's seconds influenced police intervention.

The New York Amateur Athletic Union has suspended several members for alleged professionalism.

The behaviour of the crowds in the city on New Year's Eve was of an exemplary character. The police arrangements were perfect.

The retiring Lord Mayor (Alderman Thomas Hughes) entertained the Town Hall staff yesterday, and officially bade them good-bye.

With its increasing income, Sydney, he said, would be able to do in future years what in the past it was not able to touch.

Alderman and Mrs. Thomas Hughes were presented with mementoes by the aldermen of the City Council.

The new Lord Mayor, Alderman Allen Taylor, has worked out a comprehensive scheme for dealing with the slum areas.

He also intends to deal with the widening of Oxford-street at an early date.

The city finances show a surplus at the close of the financial year of £3174.

The retiring Governor of South Australia and Lady Le Hunte left Adelaide for England by the Omrah yesterday.

The Royal Commission on coal-mining disputes concluded its labours yesterday.

The claim of the Teralba shooters and fillers to an extra fourpence as a matter of contract had not been made out.

The sliding scale of payment, however, is to be such as to give the men a rise at the present selling rate.

The cyclone at Coff's Harbour caused more damage than was at first estimated.

There is hardly a house in the whole district that has not suffered from the effects of the cyclone.

A disastrous bush fire is raging on the Blue Mountains in the vicinity of Wentworth Falls.

It is burning in several parts of the National Pass and Prince Regent's Glen, and is working round to the Valley of the Waters.

Den Fenella is completely burned out. The undercliff path is unsafe for visitors.

Several cottages in the village had very narrow escapes.

An extensive bush fire is raging in the Lachlan district.

The dense scrub along Kangaroobie and Brooks ranges is burning fiercely. The fire is reported to be 16 miles long by eight miles wide.

Word has been received of a terrific fire on the other side of Jugiong, in the Gundagai district. The fire is 25 miles wide.

An extensive fire broke out in Argent-street, Broken Hill, yesterday morning, three buildings being destroyed.

Picketing at the Proprietary Mine started at midnight on Thursday.

The men have been informed that they must prepare for something that may last two months or more.

The miners are very determined against accepting a reduction in wages at the Proprietary Mine.

The Proprietary Company paid off its men yesterday. Included in the pay-off were a number of permanent and staff hands.

The number of men employed on the Barrier mines at the end of November was 7010, as against 6697 at the end of September.

The number employed on January 4, when active work is resumed on most of the mines, will be reduced to about 4500.

During the year the area of land resumed for closer settlement purposes comprised 50,239 acres.

The total number of settlers who will be provided for on the estates acquired by Parliament will be between 500 and 550.

An amicable arrangement of the South Greta difficulty has been arrived at, and work will be resumed on Monday.

Another batch of immigrants, comprising 67 farm labourers and 12 domestics, will arrive by the steamer Dorset, which is due to-morrow.

The total number of immigrants who arrived during the year was 3840, of whom 2877 were assisted.

The rainfall officially registered in Sydney during the year was 45.65 inches, or 2 inches 6 points be a the average.

At a harbour excursion to visiting cricketers Mr. W. P. M'Elhone referred to the Board of Control's terms for the Australian Eleven.

The board has offered conditions, he remarked, which any reasonable man should consider favourable.

Mr. John Wren has been endeavouring to arrange a match between Jeffries and Johnson.

He has received the following reply by cable from San Francisco:—"No earthly chance of Jeffries fighting again."

There were no less than eight calls to fires in the city and suburbs on Wednesday afternoon and night.

Although all the outbreaks were of a minor nature, the timely arrival of the brigades prevented much damage being done.

The total sum to be paid by the Victorian Railway Commissioners in settlement of claims for the Braybrook disaster is about £115,000.

It is believed that Chinese stowaways escaped at an Australian port from the steamer Altonham.

Customs officials found evidences yesterday of human beings having recently occupied spaces among the cargo.

In his billiard match with Lindrum last night Gray broke the world's record.

Weather Forecast.—Still fine and hot in the northern and western districts, cooler in the south-east; variable winds.

FARMER AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1909.

WE WISH OUR PATRONS, ONE AND ALL, A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

TO-DAY WE ARE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY.

TO-MORROW WE ARE OPEN FROM 8.45 A.M. TILL 1 P.M.

OUR PAST POLICY.

Reviewing the past, as one is wont to do at the beginning of a year, we thank our patrons for their consistent support, which assures us that our policy of giving Sterling Value at Lowest Possible Prices has won public approval.

We have steadfastly refused to sacrifice quality to low price, and just as through every piece of cordage in the British Navy there runs the Crimson Thread, so through all our goods runs the Golden Thread of Quality.

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Our past policy, having proved so mutually satisfactory to our patrons and ourselves, will be faithfully adhered to in the future. We thus hope to merit and retain the support of customers, and to win the confidence of an ever-widening circle of new adherents.

OUR DEPARTMENTS.

Our buyers are always on the alert in the leading markets of the world to secure the latest novelties, and as our purchases are made for cash we secure many advantages, which, as is always our custom, we pass on to our patrons.

All our departments are steadily growing, and in many the year established a record. We have also added an extra section to our large list, namely, the "SEWING MACHINE DEPARTMENT."

Full particulars of the STANDARD ROTARY SEWING MACHINES will be forwarded free upon request.

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Motor Car or Coach Trips arranged to Jenolan Caves and other sights.

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FOR MARSEILLES, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON, FIRST AND SECOND SALOON ONLY.

Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Leave Sydney, Noon.	Leave Melb., 1 p.m.	Leave Adel., 6 p.m.
INDIA	8,000	Vibert	Jan. 2	Jan. 5	Jan. 7
VICTORIA	6,590	Haddock	Jan. 16	Jan. 19	Jan. 21
†MOREA	11,000	Broun	Jan. 30	Feb. 2	Feb. 4
†MOOLTAN	10,000	Henning	Feb. 13	Feb. 16	Feb. 18
*CHINA	8,000	Street	Feb. 24	Mar. 2	Mar. 4
*MOLDAVIA	10,000	Gordon	Mar. 10	Mar. 16	Mar. 18
†*MALWA	11,000	—	Mar. 24	Apr. 30	April 1
*MONGOLIA	10,000	Preston	April 7	April 13	April 15
*MARMORA	10,000	Weston	April 21	April 27	April 29

* Calling at Hobart. † Calling at Bombay. ‡ Fitted with Laundry.

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E. TRELAWNY, Superintendent in Australia.
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P. AND O. S. N. COMPANY'S S.S. VICTORIA, from London, etc.—Consignees are requested to PASS ENTRIES for the P. and O. WHARF. Steamer will not be responsible for any loss or damage to cargo after same has been landed, and any goods impeding discharge will be stored at Consignee's risk and expense, without further notice. BILLS OF LADING must be produced, freight paid, and Delivery Orders obtained at the office of the undersigned before the goods can leave the wharf.
E. TRELAWNY, Superintendent, Corner Pitt and Bridge streets.

P. AND O. COMPANY'S CARGO STEAMERS.

The S.S. PESHAWUR will be despatched for Dunkirk (Direct), London, and Continental Ports, via Suez Canal,
16th JANUARY, 1909,
Taking General and Refrigerated Cargo.
For full particulars apply to E. TRELAWNY, Superintendent in Australia, 65 Pitt-street; or Messrs. D. A. MADDEN and COMPANY, 39 Bridge-street.

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IMPERIAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS
TO LONDON AND THE CONTINENT,
VIA COLOMBO, SUEZ, NAPLES, GENOA, ALGIERS, SOUTHAMPTON, ANTWERP, AND BREMEN, Calling at Algiers.

Steamers.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney, 1.30 p.m.
*YORCK	9,000	J. Randermann	Jan. 23
*FRIEDRICH DER GROSSE	10,625	H. Hiecker	Feb. 20
*BREMEN	11,570	C. von Borell	Mar. 20
*ROON	8,072	O. Pahnke	April 17
*SEYDLITZ	8,000	A. Ahlers	May 15

From Melbourne 2 days later. From Adelaide 6 days later.

* Twin-screw Steamer.

Passage Money to London, £15 to £82 10s.
Passage Money, return, £27 to £123 4s.
ROUND THE WORLD, FROM £143.
REDUCED RATES THROUGH TO NEW YORK.
SPECIAL RETURN TICKETS TO COLOMBO.

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*Passing some of the MOST PICTURESQUE and BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS in the Pacific, making a TRULY DELIGHTFUL and INTERESTING VOYAGE.

Steamer.	Sydney.	Brisbane.
MANILA	Jan. 12	Jan. 14
PRINZ WALDEMAR (Twin-screw)	Feb. 9	Feb. 11
PRINZ SIGISMUND (Twin-screw)	Mar. 2	Mar. 11

Linen washed on board. English spoken.
LOHMANN and CO., General Agents, 7 Bridge-street.
Tel., 668.

REGULAR N.D.L. FAST CARGO SERVICE.

The Fast Steamer HEIDELBERG, Captain F. Locher, will sail on or about January 13th, for Antwerp, Bremen, and Hamburg, via Suez Canal.
To be followed by the S.S. TUEBINGEN, Captain G. Hellmers, on or about 20th JANUARY.
LOHMANN and CO., General Agents, 'Phone, Freight Dept., 6073. Sydney.

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For MARSEILLES, via MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, FREMANTLE, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, and PORT SAID.
PASSAGES BOOKED TO LONDON, VIA PARIS.

Steamers.	Sydney, Noon.	Melbourne, 1 p.m.	Adelaide, 1 p.m.
YARRA	Jan. 25	Jan. 27	Jan. 29
VILLE DE LA CIOTAT	Feb. 22	Feb. 25	Feb. 27
ARMAND BEHIC	Mar. 22	Mar. 25	Mar. 27

FARES TO MARSEILLES:—Single, £34 4s to £78 2s; Return, £36 6s to £155 12s, including table wine, English spoken on board.
EXCURSION RETURN TICKETS TO COLOMBO, available 75 days, issued at greatly reduced rates. Return coupon interchangeable with all MAIL COMPANIES.
FREMANTLE:—Saloon, £8 to £11, Return £13 to £16 10s; Third-class, £5 5s.
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LUND'S BLUE ANCHOR LINE.

TO NATAL (DURBAN), CAPETOWN, AND LONDON, VIA MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE.
The Fine Steamers of this Line will leave Sydney on the undermentioned dates, at noon:

Steamer.	Tons.	Captain.	Sails.
†*WARATAH	9,000	J. E. Ilbery	Jan. 9
*COMMONWEALTH	6,661	J. T. Hine	Feb. 6
WAROOL	5,054	F. W. Hanson	March 6

† New Steamer. * Twin Screw.
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THIRD-CLASS CABINS fitted with every comfort.
FARES:—London: First Saloon, £37.
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Steamer.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney.
ALDENHAM	4000	St. John George	Jan. 16
EMPIRE	4600	P. T. Heine	Feb. 13
EASTERN	3600	W. G. M'Arthur	Mar. 13
ALDENHAM	4000	St. John George	Apl. 10

Saloon Accommodation Amidships. Large, cool, two-berth cabins on the upper deck, and fitted with electric fans. Surgeon and Stewardess carried.
Linen Washed on Board.
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STEAM TO MELBOURNE.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS.
The Splendid Steamer ALDENHAM, 4000 TONS, will leave for Melbourne TUESDAY, 5th JANUARY, AT 4 P.M.
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STEAM TO DUNKIRK AND HULL,
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For—MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, ALBANY, FREMANTLE (and PERTH), BUNBURY, GERALDTON, — Splendid Steamer SYDNEY sails TUES., JAN. 5th.
S.S. HOBART, TUES., JAN. 19th.
Also taken cargo for S.A., Gulf ports, and South-east and North-west Coast ports, W.A.
MELBOURNE STEAMSHIP CO., Ltd., 56 Pitt-street.
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FROM EDEN FOR SYDNEY DIRECT—
S.S. PERTH, 2,500 tons, THURS., JAN. 7th.
S.S. MONARO, 4000 tons, WED., JAN. 13.
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NAIN'S COASTAL CO-OPERATIVE STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.
PORT MACQUARIE, HASTINGS and WILSON RIVERS—S.S. WAUCHOPE, MONDAY, 7 p.m.
GEORGE McARTHUR, Secretary.
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HOWARD'S Wonderful Band Instruments, Banjos, Guitars, Mandolines, Flutes, Anglos, Woollahra.

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For Plymouth and London, via Naples and Marseilles, calling at Fremantle (W.A.), Colombo, Transhipping to all Indian Ports and Suez Canal Ports.

R.M.S.	Tons.	Commander.	Sydney, Noon.	Melb., 1 p.m.	Adel., 1 p.m.
OROTAVA	5,900	Plunkett	Jan. 9	Jan. 12	Jan. 14
ORMUZ	6,463	Layton	Jan. 23	Jan. 25	Jan. 28
ORIENT	5,453	Staunton	Feb. 6	Feb. 9	Feb. 11
OROYA	6,297	Laws	Feb. 20	Feb. 23	Feb. 25
*ORTONA	8,000	Collins	Mar. 5	Mar. 9	Mar. 11
*ORONTES	6,623	Buthven	Mar. 17	Mar. 23	Mar. 25
*BANTRIA	12,002	Jenks	Mar. 31	April 6	April 8
*DOMRAH	9,282	Symons	April 14	April 20	April 22

* Twin Screw. b Calling at Hobart.
SALOON: Single, £41 16s to £82 10s; Return, £69 6s and £123 4s. Return Tickets available for Two Years.
3rd Class (liberal dietary scale), £17, £18, £21.
FREMANTLE: Saloon, £8 to £11; Third, £5 5s.
THROUGH FARES TO NEW YORK QUOTED.

PLEASURE TRIPS TO BRISBANE.

Steamer.	Leave Sydney.	Arr. Brisbane.	Leave Brisbane.	Arr. Sydney.
ORMUZ	Jan. 12	Jan. 14	Jan. 16	Jan. 18
ORIENT	Jan. 26	Jan. 28	Jan. 30	Feb. 1

Ordinary First-class Rail Return Tickets from Brisbane are available for return by these Steamers.

HOLIDAY TRIPS TO CEYLON.

Fares, including Rail and Hotel Expenses, quoted.

DAVID ANDERSON, Martin-place (opp. G.P.O.).

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THE ALL-RED ROUTE.
TO VANCOUVER, VIA FIJI AND HONOLULU; THENCE BY RAIL TO ANY PART OF CANADA OR UNITED STATES.
THE BEST ROUTE TO EUROPE.

Steamer.	Tons.	From Sydney.	From Brisbane.	Arr. Vancouver.
MOANA	4000	Jan. 18	Jan. 20	Feb. 11
†MAKURA	8300	Feb. 15	Feb. 17	Mar. 10
AORANGI	4000	Mar. 15	Mar. 17	Apl. 8
*MARAMA	6500	Apl. 12	Apl. 14	May 5
†MAKURA	8100	May 10	May 12	June 2

† New Steamer. * Twin-screw Steamer.
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UNION LINE.

Steamers are despatched as follows, weather and other circumstances permitting, from the Company's Wharves, Margaret and Sussex streets. Cargo will not be received within two hours of steamer's sailing.

NEW ZEALAND.

For AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, and DUNEDIN (transhipping to outports)—
MANUKA (Twin Screw), WEDNESDAY, January 13, at 2 p.m.
MOKOIA, WEDNESDAY, January 27.
For WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN, BLUFF, HOBART, and MELBOURNE (transhipping to outports)—
MARAMA (Twin Screw), TO-MORROW, Saturday, January 2, at 2 p.m.
(No Cargo received after 10 a.m. on sailing day).
MOERAKI (Twin Screw), SATURDAY, January 16.

TASMANIA.

For HOBART DIRECT—
PALOONA, MONDAY, January 4, at 2 p.m.; 14, and 25.
From HOBART—
PALOONA, January 9, 19, and 29.
For LAUNCESTON, via EDEN—
WAKATIPU, WEDNESDAY, January 13, and 27.
From LAUNCESTON—
WAKATIPU, WEDNESDAY, January 6, and 20.
For BEAUTY POINT, DEVONPORT, BURNIE, and STANLEY—
KAKAPO, MONDAY, January 4, at noon (Cargo only), from Druitt-street Wharf.

SOUTH SEA ISLANDS.

For FIJI (Lautoka, Suva, Levuka), SAMOA (Apia), TONGA (Vavau, Haapai, Nukualofa), thence to AUCKLAND—
AVUA (Twin Screw), TUESDAY, January 5, at midnight.
For TONGA (Nukualofa, Haapai, Vavau), SAMOA (Apia), FIJI, thence to SYDNEY—
TOFUA (Twin Screw), from AUCKLAND, TUESDAY, January 5.
For FIJI DIRECT (SUVA and LEVUKA), from Auckland—
NAVUA (Twin Screw), WEDNESDAY, January 20.

SAN FRANCISCO AND EASTERN PACIFIC SERVICE.

For RAROTONGA, TAHITI, and SAN FRANCISCO—MANAPOURI, January 5, from Wellington, transhipping to MARIPOSA at Papeete.
For RAROTONGA and TAHITI ONLY (from Auckland)—
HAUROTO, TUESDAY, January 19.
Connecting Steamer from Sydney: MANUKA, January 15.

FROM MELBOURNE.

For NEW ZEALAND PORTS—
MAHENO (Turbine Steamer), WEDNESDAY January 6, at 2 p.m.
For LAUNCESTON—
LOONGANA, January 1, 4, 6, 8, 11, 13.
From LAUNCESTON—
LOONGANA, January 2, 5, 7, 9, 12.
For BURNIE and DEVONPORT—
OONAH, January 1 and 5.
For STRAHAN—
WAINUI, January 2 and 6.

Tickets available for stop-over or return by Huddart, Parker, and Co.'s steamers.
For leaflets and full particulars apply to UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, Limited.
FREDK. W. JACKSON, Manager.
Office: 259 George-street, near Bridge-street.

HUDDART, PARKER LINE.
THE FAVOURITE PASSENGER SERVICE.

NEW ZEALAND.

AUCKLAND, GISBORNE, NAPIER, WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN (Transhipping to outports). — WIMMERA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, noon.

WELLINGTON, LYTTELTON, DUNEDIN and BLUFF, HOBART and MELBOURNE (Transhipping to outports). — ULIMAROA, 6000 Tons, Twin Screw, SATURDAY, January 9, 2 p.m.

From MELBOURNE, via HOBART and BLUFF—ULIMAROA, WEDNESDAY, January 27.

TASMANIA.

HOBART—
WESTRALIA, SATURDAY, January 9, noon; and January 19, 29.
From HOBART—
WESTRALIA, January 4, 14, 25.
LAUNCESTON—
From MELBOURNE—LOONGANA (Turbine Yacht), MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and FRIDAY.

MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, (transhipping to Port Pirie), ALBANY, FREMANTLE (Transhipping to Perth, North-west Ports, Geraldton). — RIVERINA, 5000 Tons, SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 2 p.m. Carrying first and second Saloon and Steerage Passengers.

New Zealand Tickets for stop-over and return by Union Company's steamers, or vice versa.
Return portions of coastal tickets available by all Interstate Companies. Particulars on application.
Cargo will not be received within two hours of steamer's sailing.
For particulars apply
HUDDART, PARKER, and CO. PROPRIETARY, Ltd.
Offices: Exchange Corner, 61 Pitt-street.
Wharves: Margaret and Sussex streets.

THE ADELAIDE STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.
EXPRESS LINE OF PASSENGER STEAMERS FROM GRAFTON WHARF.

FOR MELBOURNE, — MARLOO, TO-MORROW, Saturday, January 2, at 10 a.m. No Cargo received on day of sailing. INNAMINCKA, 8th January.

FOR MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, ALBANY, FREMANTLE. — GRANTALA, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, January 2, at 1 p.m. (Without Transhipment). No Cargo received after 10 a.m. on day of sailing.

FOR GERALDTON, and all North-west Ports. — BULLARRA (From Fremantle) FEBRUARY 9th.

Above Steamers take Cargo for transhipment to Port Pirie, Wallaroo, Augusta, and other S.A. ports; also for Bunbury, Perth, Geraldton, and North-west ports.

BRISBANE MACKAY, TOWNSVILLE, CAIRNS (transhipping to all other Queensland ports). — WOLLOWRA, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, January 2, at 12 noon. No Cargo received after 10 a.m. on day of sailing. MARLOO, JANUARY 9. INNAMINCKA, January 16th.

LOWEST FARES AND FREIGHTS.
SALOON PASSAGE TICKETS are interchangeable after the first port of call with the other interstate Companies on all services, subject to conditions which can be ascertained on application at the Company's office.
G. S. YUILL and CO., Limited, Agents, 5 Bridge-street.

TWEED RIVER.—DUROBY, TO-MORROW, 6 p.m. COOFF'S HARBOUR and WOOLGOOLGA.—COOMBOLA, TUESDAY NEXT, 9 p.m.
PORT MACQUARIE, HASTINGS and WILSON RIVERS.—OUR JACK, TUESDAY NEXT, 6 p.m.
LANGLEY BROS., Baltic Whf., Market-st.

ROSEBERY RACES. ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

BURNS, PHILP, AND CO., LIMITED.
BRIDGE-STREET, SYDNEY,
Agents for Steamers trading to all parts of the World.

COMBINATION ROUND-THE-WORLD TOURS BY ANY ROUTE.

EXCURSIONS AND SPECIAL SAILINGS TO ALL PORTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONTINENT.

TO SINGAPORE, PORT DARWIN, JAVA PORTS, AND DUTCH EAST INDIES.

MANILA, HONGKONG, JAPAN, ENGLAND, EUROPE, VIA AMERICA OR SUEZ, OR THROUGH SIBERIA.

TO THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, NEW HEBRIDES, SOLOMONS, GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS, LORD HOWE AND NORFOLK ISLANDS, FIJI, NEW CALEDONIA, NEW GUINEA, NEW BRITAIN.

TO CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, and Throughout INDIA AND THE EAST.

All desiring to travel should write for particulars, when an itinerary will be prepared, showing cost, time occupied, variation of route, etc., etc.

Books, Pamphlets, Maps, Passage, and Freight Schedules on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, 10 Bridge-street, Sydney.

A.U.S.N. CO., LTD.
ROYAL MAIL COASTAL SERVICE.
THE POPULAR PASSENGER LINE.
FROM THE LIME-STREET WHARVES—

FOR MELBOURNE, — WYREEMA (New Steamer, Twin Screw, 6237 tons), TUESDAY, 5 p.m., January 5. KYARRA, SATURDAY, Noon, January 9. WODONGA, TUESDAY, 5 p.m., January 12.

MELBOURNE, ADELAIDE, (Transhipping to Port Pirie), ALBANY, FREMANTLE, (Transhipping to Perth, Geraldton, and North-west Ports). — KYARRA (Without Transhipment), SATURDAY, Noon, January 9. KANOWNA (Without Transhipment), SATURDAY, Noon, January 23. Each 7000 Tons, Twin Screw, Deck Cabins. Carrying First and Second Saloon and Steerage Passengers. Inspection invited. Early application for berths necessary.

BRISBANE, *MARYBOROUGH, *BUNDABERG, *GLADSTONE, ROCKHAMPTON, TOWNSVILLE (Jetty and Town Wharfs). — **KOMURA (Cargo only), TO-MORROW, Saturday, noon, January 2. ARAWATTA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 5. **MOIRA (Cargo only), SATURDAY, noon, January 9.

BRISBANE, ROCKHAMPTON, MACKAY, BOWEN, TOWNSVILLE (Town Wharf) TOWNSVILLE (Jetty Wharf) ILUKINDA, †GERALDTON, †MOURILYAN CAIRNS, PORT DOUGLAS, COOKTOWN. — ARAWATTA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 5. WYREEMA (New Steamer, Twin Screw, 6237 Tons), TUESDAY, 6 p.m., Jan. 12. WODONGA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 19. WYANDRA, WEDNESDAY, 10 a.m., January 27.

THURSDAY ISLAND NORMANTON, BURKETOWN, LAUTOKA, VEVUKA, } FIJI. — ARAWATTA, TUESDAY, 7 p.m., January 5 (Transhipping at Brisbane). SUVA, WEDNESDAY, 5 p.m., January 20.

* TRANSHIPPING AT BRISBANE.
** THROUGH SERVICE TO ROCKHAMPTON, TRANSHIPPING AT BRISBANE FOR TOWNSVILLE.
† TRANSHIPPING AT TOWNSVILLE.
LOWEST CURRENT FARES AND FREIGHTS.
After first port Saloon Tickets are interchangeable under certain conditions with all interstate Companies in the Queensland and Western trades, to be ascertained on application to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Limited, Agents, 10 Bridge-street.

SYDNEY, JAVA, SINGAPORE.
MONTHLY SERVICE.
Under Contract with the Government of New South Wales,
Via QUEENSLAND PORTS AND PORT DARWIN, to SOURABAYA, SAMARANG, BATAVIA, AND SINGAPORE.
S.S. AIRLIE, FEBRUARY 1.
LOWEST PASSENGER FARES.
ENGLAND, via SINGAPORE and CALCUTTA, or CHINA, JAPAN, and SAN FRANCISCO, or VANCOUVER.
ROUND-THE-WORLD TOURS.
EXCURSIONS to JAVA, THE GARDEN OF THE EAST, RETURN FARE £20.
TIME OCCUPIED FOR ROUND VOYAGE, 50 DAYS, ALLOWING 10 DAYS IN JAVA.
For further particulars apply to BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Ltd.

BURNS, PHILP LINE.
(Under Commonwealth Mail Contract.)
FROM FEDERAL WHARF, for

GILBERT ISLANDS, ELLICE ISLANDS, MARSHALL ISLANDS (Transhipping at Tarawa). — S.S. MUNIARA, TUES., JAN. 5, 4 P.M. Cargo received January 4th ONLY.

SOLOMON ISLANDS, SHORTLAND ISLANDS, PAPUA. — S.S. MORESBY, FRIDAY, JAN. 8, NOON. Cargo received January 6th and 7th ONLY.

BURNS, PHILP, and CO., Ltd.,

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1909.

CHEAP EXCURSION TRAINS.

In addition to the usual CHEAP EXCURSION TICKETS issued on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, as shown in the Penny Time-table Book, similar tickets, at 2d per mile First-class Return (minimum 2s) and 1d per mile Second-class Return (minimum 1s), will be issued by the undermentioned down trains to and from all Stations at which the trains are timed to call.

CHEAP TRAINS FROM SYDNEY.

NORTHERN LINE.

TO-DAY (FRIDAY) and SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—7.35 a.m. to Newcastle.

WESTERN LINE.

TO-DAY (FRIDAY).—7.52 a.m. to Eskbank; 8.10 a.m. to Mt. Victoria (to Lawson and Stations west thereof); 8.28 a.m., to Mt. Victoria (to Stations Penrith to Hazelbrook, inclusive).

SATURDAY, JAN 2.—8.10 a.m. to Eskbank (to Lawson and stations west thereof); 6.13 p.m., to Mt. Victoria.

SOUTHERN LINE.

TO-DAY (FRIDAY).—8.0 a.m., to Gheilburn; 8.55 a.m. to Camden (to Stations on the Camden Line only).

ILLAWARRA LINE.

TO-DAY (FRIDAY) and SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—7.8 and 7.38 a.m. to Wollongong; 7.30 a.m. to Nowra. The 8.5 a.m. ordinary train, Sydney to Wollongong, will not run on Saturday, January 2, the cheap tickets being issued by special train leaving Sydney at 9.37 a.m. in lieu thereof.

CHEAP TICKETS at the Rate of Single Fare and a Quarter for the Double Journey (minimum 2s First-class and 1s Second-class) will be issued by the undermentioned trains to Sydney, and also to and from all Stations at which the trains are timed to call.

Exceptions.—By the trains leaving West Maitland for Sydney, 5.45 a.m., and leaving Newcastle at 6.20 a.m. and 6.30 a.m. on Saturday, January 2, the fares ordinarily charged on Fridays and Saturdays (by trains, and to and from the stations, specified on page 14 of Penny Time-table Book) will apply. The fares to and from other stations to be at the rate of Single Fare and a Quarter for the Double Journey—minimum fares, 2s First-class, and 1s Second-class.

CHEAP TRAINS TO SYDNEY.

NORTHERN LINE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—5.45 a.m. from West Maitland; 6.20 and 6.30 a.m., from Newcastle.

WESTERN LINE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—6.15 a.m., from Mt. Victoria (from Emu Plains and Stations west thereof).

SOUTHERN LINE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—4.25 a.m. from Goulburn.

ILLAWARRA LINE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 2.—4.35 a.m. from Nowra; 5.35 a.m. from Wollongong.

These tickets will be available for return within one calendar month from date of issue.

Tickets issued in the Down direction (from Sydney and intermediate Stations) will be available for return by any train.

Tickets issued at Sydney and other Stations in the Up direction will not be available for return by the Melbourne Express or Mail trains.

SPECIAL MOUNTAIN SERVICE.

CHEAP TICKETS, at single fare for the double journey, will be issued to-day (Friday), by train leaving Eskbank for Katoomba at 9.45 a.m., and Katoomba for Eskbank at 6.36 p.m.; and on Saturday, January 2, by train leaving Eskbank for Katoomba at 8.45 a.m., and Katoomba for Eskbank at 4.31 p.m., to and from all stations at which the trains are timed to call. These tickets will be available for return within 10 days from date of issue.

EXCURSIONS TO THE HAWKESBURY RIVER.

Trains will leave Sydney To-day (Friday) at 9.15 a.m. and 9.18 a.m.; and on Saturday, Jan. 2, at 9.10 a.m., connecting train from Milson's Point at 8.50 a.m.

The River Trip will occupy about five hours.

Return Fares from Sydney and Suburban Stations, 6s First-class, 4s Second-class.

Light Refreshments obtainable on steamer.

EXCURSION TO THE NEPEAN RIVER (PENRITH).

Trains will leave Sydney for Penrith To-day (Friday) and Saturday, Jan. 2, at 8.10 a.m., 8.28 a.m., and 1.25 p.m.

Return Fares from Sydney (including Rail, Coach, and Steamer), 6s 6d First-class, and 4s Second-class.

Light Refreshments obtainable at landing-places on river.

COMO AND NATIONAL PARK.

On January 1 and 2 the Maximum Return Fares from Sydney, Redfern, and intermediate Illawarra Suburban Stations (including Belmore Line) to Moriarity, Oatley, Como, Sutherland, Loftus, and National Park will not exceed 1s 6d First-class and 1s Second-class. Available for return on day of issue only.

ADDITIONAL AND ALTERED TRAIN ARRANGEMENTS.

In addition to the Ordinary Train Service and the Cheap Trains shown above, Special Country Trains will leave Sydney on:—

Jan. 1.—9.10 a.m., for Gosford; 9.18 a.m., for Hawkesbury; 7.34 p.m., for Newcastle; 9.30 a.m., for Mt. Victoria; 7.50 p.m., for Mudgee; 11.28 p.m., for Penrith; 9.25 p.m., for Goulburn; 8.27 a.m., for Wollongong; 9.30 a.m., for Scarborough; 9.33 a.m., for Kiama; 5.50 p.m., for Nowra; 8.0 p.m., for Bulli; 9.0 p.m., for Nowra.

Jan. 2.—9.10 a.m., for Gosford; 6.0 p.m., for Newcastle; 11.15 p.m., for Newcastle and West Maitland; 9.30 a.m., for Mt. Victoria; 11.20 p.m., for Orange; 11.50 p.m., for Richmond; 11.55 p.m., for Harden; 9.30 a.m., for Scarborough; 9.33 a.m., for Kiama; 5.50 p.m., for Wollongong; 11.50 p.m., for Nowra.

PARTICULAR ATTENTION OF PASSENGERS RETURNING FROM THE CITY IS DIRECTED TO THE CONVENIENT SERVICE AFFORDED BY SPECIAL TRAINS LEAVING SYDNEY ON JANUARY 2, at 11.15 p.m., for Newcastle and West Maitland; 11.20 p.m., for Orange; 11.25 p.m., for Harden; 11.30 p.m., for Nowra.

On January 1, the 5.20 p.m. train from Sydney to Gosford will terminate at Hawkesbury River; but a service will be given to Woy Woy, Tuscott, Point Clare, and Gosford by Special Train leaving Sydney at 7.24 p.m.

On Jan. 2, Passengers for Blacktown and stations on the Richmond line will not be conveyed by train leaving Sydney at 11.28 p.m., but must travel by Special leaving Sydney at 11.20 p.m.

On Jan. 2, the 2.25 p.m. Saturday Train, Sydney to Mount Victoria, will not run.

On Jan. 1, the 2.50 p.m. train, Springwood to Mount Victoria, will not run.

On Jan. 1, the 4.55 p.m. Sydney to Mount Victoria, will not run.

On Jan. 1 the 5.56 p.m. train from Blacktown to Sydney will NOT run.

On Jan. 1 and 2 the 6.20 a.m. train, Campbelltown to Sydney, will NOT run. Owing to the withdrawal of this train, Workmen's Weekly Tickets from stations Campbelltown to Camden, inclusive, will be available by the train leaving Campbelltown at 7.30 a.m.

On Jan. 2 the 8.5 a.m. Saturday train, Sydney to Wollongong, and the 2.55 p.m. Saturday train, Wollongong to Sydney, will NOT run.

On dates that the 7.34 p.m. Special Sydney to Newcastle runs, passengers for Gosford, Wyong, and Newcastle will not be conveyed by mail train leaving Sydney at 7.15 p.m.

Passengers will not be conveyed to usual intermediate stations as far as Wallerawang, inclusive, or to the Mudgee line, by Mail Train leaving Sydney at 7.20 p.m., on the dates that the 7.80 p.m. Special Train from Sydney runs.

On the dates that the 8.35 p.m. Special runs from Sydney to Goulburn, passengers for intermediate stations and to the Cooma and Crookwell lines will not be conveyed by the Mail Train leaving Sydney at 8.10 p.m.

CAMDEN BRANCH.

On January 2 a Special Train (connecting with the 11.45 p.m. train ex Sydney on Friday, January 1) will leave Campbelltown at 1.16 a.m., call at all intermediate platforms where required, and be due Camden at 1.40 a.m.

On Sunday, January 3, a Special Train (connecting with the 11.55 p.m. train ex Sydney) will leave Campbelltown at 12.46 a.m., call at intermediate platforms where required, and be due at Camden at 1.10 a.m.

ALTERED RUNNING OF SUBURBAN TRAINS.

On Jan. 1 and 2 several alterations and cancellations will be made in the running of the ordinary trains on the Main Suburban, Hornsby-Strathfield, Milson's Point, and Belmore Lines. The ordinary train service as between Sydney and Waterfall will be cancelled, and the Special Holiday Timetable shown on handbills substituted. Passengers are referred to handbills for full particulars.

For the convenience of passengers wishing to return to Sydney in time for business on Monday, January 4, trains will leave Nowra at 4.35 a.m., Goulburn at 4.25 a.m., Moss Vale at [illegible] a.m., Gosford at 6.34 a.m., Mount Victoria at 6.1[illegible] a.m., 6.40 a.m., and 7.0 a.m., and Katoomba at 5.35 [illegible].

For full particulars of holiday arrangements see handbills and posters.

CLOSING OF GOODS SHEDS.

On FRIDAY and SATURDAY, Jan. 1 and 2, the Goods Shed at [illegible] will be Closed, but Darling Harbour and Sydney Goods Sheds will be open until 10 a.m. for the delivery of perishables only. The Goods Sheds at all other stations will be closed except for the receipt and delivery of perishables.

CLOSING OF CITY TICKETS AND PARCELS OFFICE.

On Jan. 1 and 2 the City Tickets and Parcels Office will be open until 10 a.m.

By order.

(6t-294) H. McLACHLAN, Secretary.

GOVERNMENT TRAMWAYS.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, JANUARY 1.

Workmen's Fares will be cancelled on all lines.

Improved services will be run on Abbotsford, Enfield-Burwood-Mortlake, Bondi, Coogee, Watson's Bay, and North Sydney Lines.

BAULKHAM HILLS LINE.—Hourly service between Parramatta and Baulkham Hills, 8.16 a.m. to 10.16 p.m., from Parramatta.

LONG BAY-LA PEROUSE.—From Circular Quay, 6.5, 6.47, 7.5, 8.3, 8.27, 8.39, 8.51 a.m., and every 12 minutes to 8.27, 9.15, 10.15, 11.20 p.m.

From Railway, a 12 minutes' service will be run to La Perouse from Western Railway Gates, commencing at 8.57 a.m.

BONDI JUNCTION.—The service via Pitt and Castlereagh streets will be cancelled.

HIGHLAND GATHERING AT AGRICULTURAL GROUND, AND QUEENSLAND AND NEW SOUTH WALES AT SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND.—A special service will be run to the Cricket and Agricultural Grounds from Circular Quay and Western Railway Gates, commencing at 9.30 a.m.

RANDWICK RACES.—A frequent service will be run to the Racecourse from Circular Quay and Central Railway Loop, commencing at 10.10 a.m. The first-class tram will not run.

RETURN FARE (including admittance to Course), by Special Tram, 1s 6d. Single tickets will not be issued on the outward journey.

By Order.

(T-293) H. McLACHLAN, Secretary.

CENTRAL RAILWAY CAFE, ON PLATFORM OF SYDNEY STATION.

3-COURSE DINNER, 1s.

AFTERNOON TEAS; Ices, Strawberries, Fruit and Confectionery, Cakes, etc.
Tobacco and Cigars, Pipes, etc.
MEALS OBTAINABLE FROM 6 A.M. TILL 11.30 P.M.

OPEN SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS.

LARGEST, COOLEST, AND BEST APPOINTED REFRESHMENT ROOMS IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE.

P. HART, Lessee.

AMUSEMENTS.

GLACIARIUM.

2 GREAT HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES TO-DAY. 2
2 GREAT HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES TO-DAY. 2

WEST'S PICTURES—BEST OF ALL.
WEST'S PICTURES—BEST OF ALL.

MATINEE At HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
MATINEE HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
MATINEE 2.30. HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.

Also,
HOLIDAY MATINEE TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.
HOLIDAY MATINEE TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.
HOLIDAY MATINEE TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.

GLACIARIUM.
WEST'S PICTURES—ATTRACTION OF THE MOMENT.
TO-DAY, SCENES IN SICILY, SCENES IN SICILY, SCENES IN SICILY, TO-NIGHT,
Showing the Scene of the Terrible Earthquake.

GLACIARIUM.
A 1909 TRIUMPH.
A Series of
MAGNIFICENT CINEMATOGRAPHIC ART FILMS, reproducing
PERFORMANCES BY THE LEADING ARTISTES of the
Comedie Francaise, Odeon Theatre, Etc, Etc, Paris,
prepared with the assistance of
SARAH BERNHARDT.
REJANE, COQUELIN, LE BARGY, SEVERIN, LAMBERT,
and other Renowned Artistes.
The First Production will be Presented with our
ALL-NEW PROGRAMME TO-DAY.
Alphonse Daudet's Famous Love Drama,
THE ARLESIENNE.
A TRAGIC STORY OF EARNEST HUMAN PASSION.

GLACIARIUM.
DIRECTION OF T. J. WEST.
COOL, CAPACIOUS, AND COMFORTABLE.
SEATING ACCOMMODATION
4000 FOR FOUR THOUSAND PEOPLE 4000
4000 FOR FOUR THOUSAND PEOPLE 4000
START THE NEW YEAR PROPERLY AND WITNESS the Pre-eminent and Incomparable, the best of all.
WEST'S PICTURES,
WEST'S PICTURES,
WEST'S PICTURES.
WEST'S ALL NEW STAR PROGRAMME, consisting of
Scenes of Travel, Dramatic Gems, Side-splitting Comics.
TO-DAY, AT 2.30. TO-NIGHT, AT 8.
AN ALL STAR NEW PROGRAMME, SPECIALLY COMPILED TO AMUSE, ENTERTAIN, AND DELIGHT
SYDNEY'S HOLIDAY MILLIONS.
SYDNEY'S HOLIDAY MILLIONS.
SYDNEY'S HOLIDAY MILLIONS.
20 DE GROEN'S VICE-REGAL BAND, 20
2s, 1s 6d, 1s, and 6d. Million Prices, 6d, 1s, 1s 6d, 2s. Seats may be secured at Nicholson's.

WARWICK FARM RACES.

HORSE RACES,
TO-MORROW, SATURDAY.
SPECIAL TRAINS.—Horses, 10.50; Passengers, 11.50, 12 noon, 12.10, 12.20, 12.32, 12.50, 1.20.
Catch Early Trains for Convenience.

RANDWICK RACECOURSE.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB RACES.

THIS DAY.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB CUP.

FIRST RACE AT 12.30.

J. B. OLLIFFE, Secretary.

N.S.W. CRICKET ASSOCIATION.
QUEENSLAND v NEW SOUTH WALES,
commences
THIS DAY, 1st JANUARY,
at noon,
SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND.
PERCY E. BOWDEN, Secretary N.S.W.C.A.
Moore-street.

SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND.
TO-DAY. TO-DAY.
INTERSTATE CRICKET MATCH.
QUEENSLAND v NEW SOUTH WALES.
GATES opened at 10.30 a.m. PLAY STARTS at noon. LUNCHEON, 1.30 p.m. GAME RESUMED 2.15 p.m. ADMISSION, 1s to Ground, 2s (2d extra to Grand Stand. Children Half-price.
MEMBERS must produce their tickets.
NO CHANGE GIVEN AT THE TURNSTILES.
SPECIAL TRAMS direct to Ground.
Office— S. H. FAIRLAND,
60 Castlereagh-street. Secretary S.C. Ground.

THE SALVATION ARMY.
NEW YEAR'S DAY, FRIDAY, JANUARY 1st, 1909,
MONSTER AND POPULAR EXCURSION TO PEARL BAY.
BOATS LEAVING FORT MACQUARIE PICNIC JETTY, Nos. 2 and 4, AS FOLLOWS:—
6.15, 9.30, 10.45, 11.45 a.m., 12.45, 1.45;
RETURNING at 5, 5.30, 6.45, 7.15 p.m.
One boat leaving BALD ROCK at 8.15 for BALMAIN Passengers, calling at STEPHEN-STREET WHARF.
COLONEL HOSKIN, CHIEF SECRETARY FOR AUSTRALASIA, IN COMMAND.
RETURN TICKETS: ADULTS, 1/; CHILDREN UNDER 12, 6d.
HOT WATER PROVIDED. REFRESHMENTS AT CITY PRICES.
HUGE MEETING AT NIGHT IN THE CITY TEMPLE, COMMENCING AT 8 O'CLOCK.

CORREY'S GARDENS, NEW YEAR'S DAY.—Sixty-Hourly, No. 6 Jetty, Circ. Q. Return Fare, 6d.
ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. ROSEBERY RACES.

ONE HUNDRED PERFORMANCES IN SYDNEY.
THE MERRY WIDOW
THE MERRY WIDOW
will To-night
SCORE THE CENTURY IN SYDNEY,
and thus register
THE RECORD FOR THE CITY.
This Unprecedented Run will be marked at To-day's
AFTERNOON and EVENING PERFORMANCES
AFTERNOON and EVENING PERFORMANCES
by the Free Distribution of
A UNIQUE ILLUSTRATED SOUVENIR,
A UNIQUE ILLUSTRATED SOUVENIR,
which will be interesting as an Artistic Record of
THE ROYAL COMIC OPERA COMPANY'S PHENOMENALLY SUCCESSFUL SEASON.

HER MAJESTY'S.
Lessee and Manager .. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
LAST TWO PERFORMANCES.
LAST TWO PERFORMANCES.
LAST TWO PERFORMANCES.
THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, THIS AFTERNOON AT 2, GRAND SOUVENIR MATINEE.
THE MERRY WIDOW.
THE MERRY WIDOW.
THE MERRY WIDOW.
THE MERRY WIDOW.
GRAND THIS EVENING AT 8. THIS EVENING AT 8.
SOUVENIR THIS EVENING AT 8. THIS EVENING AT 8.
NIGHT. THIS EVENING AT 8. THIS EVENING AT 8.
FAREWELL TO
FAREWELL TO
The Greatest Lyric Success of the Age.
ABSOLUTELY NO FREE LIST.
Prices as usual. The Box Plan will be at the Theatre Office, Market-street, To-day and To-morrow.
J. C. WILLIAMSON.

HER MAJESTY'S. SATURDAY, JAN. 2, 1909.
J. C. WILLIAMSON
has pleasure in announcing for
TO-MORROW NIGHT,
TO-MORROW NIGHT,
the Romantic Opera,
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC."
(First Time in Australia.)
Book and Lyrics by HENRY HAMILTON. Music by IVAN CARYLL.
Produced by arrangement with Mr. George Edwardes.
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC"
"THE DUCHESS OF DANTZIC"
will be presented
by
A Cast of Unparalleled Brilliancy,
comprised of
THE PRINCIPALS, CHORUS,
AND BALLERINAS
of the
ROYAL COMIC OPERA COMPANY.
The Box Plan will be on view at Her Majesty's Office, Market-street, To-day and To-morrow.
J. C. WILLIAMSON.

DANCING LESSONS PRIVATELY, DAY OR EVG. Quickest, Easiest, and Best System of Tuition. MR. AND MRS. ROBERTS, 160 PHILLIP-STREET (near King-street).

THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS. OPEN 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. WEEK DAYS, 2 TO 5 P.M. SUNDAYS.

CORREY'S GARDENS, NEW YEAR'S DAY.—Trams from Ashfield and Burwood stations at short intvls.
PUBLIC HOLIDAY. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. ROSEBERY RACES.

GET YOUR PHOTO TAKEN NOW.

THREE CHRISTMAS OFFERS. THREE.
OPEN ALL DAY TO-DAY TILL 5 P.M.
FIRST OFFER.—12 Rococo Cabinets and an Enlargement, Framed in Real Australian Oak, and finished in first-class style, and far better than usually sold at double this price. Only 10/6. Excellent value.
SECOND OFFER.—12 Bromide Cabinets and a Beautifully Framed Enlargement for 15/6. Please note that this is a remarkable offer, and one worthy the attention of those desirous of an up-to-date and artistic picture. YOU SHOULD SEE THIS OFFER.
THIRD OFFER, A GREAT EFFORT.—ONE DOZEN Cabinet Portraits, mounted on our new artistic mount, and an ENLARGEMENT, framed in a most expensive Frame, for 21/. Size of Frame, 26 x 22 inches.
NOTE.—The Frames are of the best quality three-ply Veneer Imported Oak, the whole frame being cut out of a large sheet of oak. To each sitter for this special offer we will supply proofs of three different positions, WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE.
WET OR CLOUDY WEATHER MAKES NO DIFFERENCE TO OUR INSTANTANEOUS PROCESS.
WE TAKE JUST AS GOOD PHOTOS AFTER DARK AS DURING THE DAY.
OPEN ALL DAY SATURDAY TILL 9 O'CLOCK.

THE CROWN STUDIOS,

Do not mistake our Studios. We are right next to Roberts' Hotel. Open until 5.30 daily; also Saturdays and Holidays.
448 GEORGE-STREET, SYDNEY (NEXT TO ROBERTS' HOTEL.)

HAWKESBURY RIVER EXCURSIONS.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.

THIS MORNING, AT 10.

THE EXPRESS PASSENGER STEAMSHIPS
HUNTER, 1340 TONS, NEWCASTLE, 1281 TONS,
will leave the Company's Wharf at 10 a.m. for
COWAN BAY.
REFRESHMENTS AT MODERATE RATES.
3/ RETURN FARE. 3/
CHILDREN HALF-PRICE.
THE NEWCASTLE and HUNTER RIVER S.S. CO., Ltd.,
Wharf, Tram Stop, foot of King-street. F. J. THOMAS, Manager.

NEW YEAR'S DAY, FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 1909.

ATHOL, CLIFTON, BALMORAL AND THE SPIT FERRY.
FROM No. 1 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY.
STEAMERS EVERY 20 MINUTES FROM 9 A.M.
DANCING ALL DAY AT CLIFTON GARDENS.
BALMORAL BEACH.—One of the most beautiful in Sydney Harbour. Room for thousands. Every facility for bathers. Government Reserve of 10 acres. Plenty of shady trees for picnickers. Dancing all day at Cave's Pavilion.
RETURN FARES: ADULTS, 6d; CHILDREN, 3d.

PARRAMATTA RIVER SERVICE,

FROM No. 6 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY.
DANCING, CORREY'S GARDENS, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Steamers Half-hourly.
FOR PARRAMATTA: Hourly from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. 23 miles for 1/ Return.
FOR RYDE: Hourly from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. 20 miles for 9d Return.

SATURDAY JAN. 2, 1909.

ATHOL, CLIFTON, BALMORAL AND THE SPIT FERRY.
STEAMERS EVERY HALF-HOUR FROM NO. 1 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY.
BEAUTIFUL BEACHES, SHADY TREES, AND BATHS at CLIFTON GARDENS, BALMORAL, and THE SPIT.
RETURN FARES: ADULTS, 6d; CHILDREN, 3d.
SYDNEY FERRIES, Ltd. W. G. TODD, Mgr.

CLONTARF, BANTRY BAY, AND KILLARNEY.

TO-DAY, DANCING, 10 A.M. TO 9 P.M. AT CLONTARF MAMMOTH PAVILION, AND AT BANTRY BAY AND KILLARNEY.
Steamers from PORT MACQUARIE half-hourly from 9 a.m.
Steamers from THE SPIT half-hourly from 10 a.m.
BEST PLACE TO VIEW THE MIDDLE HARBOUR REGATTA.
6d RETURN TO CLONTARF. OTHER WHARFS, 9d.
SATURDAY STEAMERS:—HALF-HOURLY, FROM 9 A.M. from PORT MACQUARIE. HOT and COLD WATER can be obtained FREE at any of these popular pleasure resorts. Luncheon and Refreshments at City Prices. Endless variety of pastimes for old and young.
RETURN FARE TO CLONTARF AND PEARL BAY 6d; CHILDREN, 3d.

THE AVENUE, LANE COVE RIVER.

NEW YEAR DAY. DANCING IN THE PAVILION.
FIRST-CLASS BAND. EFFICIENT MS.C. ADMISSION, 1s.
Beautifully Situated Grounds. Amusements for All. Refreshments at City Rates. Hot Water Free. Shooting Gallery. Swings. Picnickers' Paradise. Cold Luncheon, 1s 6d. Swimming Bath for Children.
THE LANE COVE FERRY RUNS HALF-HOURLY SERVICE ALL DAY TO THESE GROUNDS FROM NO. 7 JETTY, CIRCULAR QUAY. 6d RETURN.

COLLARD AND COLLARD'S.

LONDON-MADE PIANOFORTES ARE THE "RECORD PIANOFORTES OF AUSTRALIA." Beautiful in tone—of elegant design—Perfect Touch—and a most remarkable Durability in their retention of Original TONE Quality. No other Pianoforte can claim such a long "time-honoured" period of success in this State, and they represent the perfection of Modern APPROVED CONSTRUCTION—from Fifty-five Pounds.
TRADE—"THE DRESDEN"—MARK. ELVY AND CO., SYDNEY.
These Pianofortes are the BEST VALUE IN GERMAN-MADE PIANOFORTES we have ever offered for Sale. They are known in Mansions, in Villas, and in Convent Schools throughout this State. They are in Six Elegant Models—AT MODERATE PRICES. See Catalogues.
ROSENCRANZ, SCHWECHTEN, HAGSPIEL,
Have each turned out Beautiful Models, and they have a high reputation.
WE OFFER FIVE DRAWING-ROOM GRANDS.
They are by LIPP and SON, BLOTHNER, COLLARD and COLLARD, SECOND-HAND, but in SPLENDID CONDITION, and from Thirty to Fifty Per Cent. under Original Cost.
ELVY AND COMPANY, 329 GEORGE-ST.

THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
MATINEE, MATINEE,
TO-MORROW—AT 2—TO-MORROW.
TO-MORROW—AT 2—TO-MORROW.
SATURDAY, JAN. 2, AT 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.
Lessee and Manager .. J. C. WILLIAMSON.
JULIUS KNIGHT SEASON.
EVERY EVENING, AT 8 O'CLOCK.
A PLAY THAT WILL LIVE FOR EVER.
THE EVERLASTING SUCCESS,
THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
THE SIGN OF THE CROSS.
Conclusive proof of the vitality of the late Mr. Wilson Barrett's drama is forthcoming in the ovation it evokes at each performance. After sixteen years, with revivals at frequent intervals, its hold upon audiences is as strong as ever.
A TELLING ARTISTIC PRODUCTION,
by
AN EXCEPTIONALLY POWERFUL CAST.
Mr. JULIUS KNIGHT ....as..... MARCUS SUPERBUS
Miss BEATRICE DAY....as..... MERCIA
POSITIVELY NO FREE LIST.
Prices as usual. The Box Plan will be at the Theatre Office, Castlereagh-street, To-day and To-morrow.
J. C. WILLIAMSON.

TO-NIGHT, EXHIBITION-BUILDING,
TO-NIGHT, EXHIBITION-BUILDING,
TO-NIGHT, EXHIBITION-BUILDING,
PRINCE ALFRED PARK.
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PRINCE ALFRED PARK.
GRAND POPULAR BALLAD CONCERT by the
NEWBURY-SPADA CONCERT COMPANY.
SOME OF THE ITEMS:—
PHILIP NEWBURY will sing
Aria "M'appari" ("Martha") ..... Flotow
Song "The Message" ..... Blumenthal.
And in the Duet, from "Miserere" Scene in "Il Trovatore" with Madame SPADA.
And in the Duet "Excelsior" (Balfe) with Mr. PERCY HEREFORD.
Madame EMILY SPADA will sing—
Song, Jewel Song ("Faust") ..... Gounod
Miss RUBY RICHARDI sings—
Song, "Sunshine and Rain" ..... Pinsuti.
Miss FLORENCE MARTIN sings—
Song, "Nobil Signor" ..... Meyerbeer
Mr. PERCY HEREFORD sings—
Song, "The Mighty Deep" ..... Jude.
Harp Fantasie by Signor TORZILLO.
Violin Soli by Miss LESLIE HARBUTT.
Accompanist, Mr. ERNEST TRUMAN, F.R.C.O.
POPULAR PRICES, 1s to all parts.

STANDARD THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT (FRIDAY), NEW YEAR'S NIGHT.
CLAY'S VAUDEVILLE COMPANY.
NEW ARTISTS THIS WEEK:
George Mackie, Josephine Johnson, Coleman Sisters, Hilda, May, and Bob Harper.

CORREY'S GARDENS, NEW YEAR'S DAY.—The Best Place to spend an Enjoyable Day.

PANDEMONIUM LET LOOSE, when the LIONS, TIGERS, LEOPARDS, JAGUARS DINE AT THE ZOO.

MINIATURE PHOTOS., 12 for 1s. Williams, The Strand, George-st end, take lift.

ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. ROSEBERY RACES.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
The Last Matinee but one of the World's Champion Heavyweight Boxer, Mr. JACK JOHNSON, THIS AFTERNOON, THIS EVENING, TO-MORROW MATINEE, TO-MORROW NIGHT, FAREWELL.
MATINEE JACK JOHNSON MATINEE
MATINEE THIS AFTERNOON MATINEE
MATINEE THIS EVENING MATINEE
MATINEE TO-MORROW MATINEE MATINEE
MATINEE TO-MORROW NIGHT MATINEE
MATINEE FAREWELL MATINEE
Doors open at 1.30. Commence at 2.15. Special prices for Children at the Matinee.

TIVOLI THEATRE.
Sole Proprietor and Man.... Mr. Harry Rickards.
Treasurer ..... Mr. Edward H. Maas.
Mr. HARRY RICKARDS'
NEW TIVOLI VAUDEVILLE AND SPECIALTY COMBINATION.
MATINEES, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and MONDAY.
Our Artists are the Absolute Leaders of Vaudeville.
IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT.
Mr. Rickards has much pleasure in announcing that he has made arrangements for the appearance at his Tivoli Theatre, for
POSITIVELY THIS ONE WEEK ONLY,
OF THE WORLD'S CHAMPION BOXER,
JACK JOHNSON,
JACK JOHNSON,
Mr. Johnson will appear in a most interesting programme, including—
A two-round spar with Mr. BILL LANG,
and a two-round spar with Mr. BOBBIE BRYANT,
AT THE MATINEE THIS AFTERNOON,
THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING,
TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, AT THE MATINEE,
AND TO-MORROW (SATURDAY) NIGHT ONLY,
and leaves for Melbourne on Sunday Night.
COME AND SEE OUR BRILLIANT NEW COMPANY.
AMALIA and LEONORA,
AMALIA and LEONORA,
Continental Equilibrists, Indescribable, from the Folies Bergeres, Paris.
CRISTOFOLO,
CRISTOFOLO,
A Wonderful Juggler and Equilibrist.
MACKINNON'S SCOTTISH MEISTERS,
MACKINNON'S SCOTTISH MEISTERS,
A Screamingly Funny Quartette.
MR. CHARLES FANING,
CHARLOTTA and FANING and FANING,
MISS NELLIE MAUNSELL,
Miss AMBER AUSTA, Mr. WILL HAINES,
The Popular London Burlesque Comedian,
Mr. J. W. RICKABY, Mr. J. W. RICKABY,
GOODFELLOW and GREGSON,
THE SISTERS RENO, THE SISTERS RENO,
FRANK YORK, LEE WARTON, TOM DAWSON,
ARTHUR ELLIOTT, 3 MASCOTTES, RUBY WALLACE,
GERTIE JOHNS, Etc.
N.B.—Owing to the enormous expense of the above Gigantic Combination the prices of Admission will be
DRESS CIRCLE and ORCHESTRA STALLS 3s.
STALLS 2s, FAMILY CIRCLE 1s.
Early Doors and all Booked Seats 1s Extra.
Box Plan at Theatre from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

BIJOU PICTURE PALACE.
NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1909.
THIS AFTERNOON, AT 2.30.
A SPECIAL GRAND MATINEE.
PRICES, SIXPENCE, 1/, AND 1/6.
Children, Half Price to all parts.

BIJOU PICTURE PALACE
(BIJOU AMUSEMENTS, LIMITED.)
GEORGE-STREET, OPPOSITE RAILWAY STATION.
TO-NIGHT (NEW YEAR'S DAY), AT 8.
A GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.
BIJOU PICTURE PALACE. COOLEST PLACE OF AMUSEMENT IN SYDNEY. FOUR LARGE SLIDING ROOFS.
BIJOU PICTURE PALACE. UNEQUALLED AND UNPARALLELED IN THE LATEST GEMS FROM THE WORLD'S GREATEST MANUFACTURERS of CINEMATOGRAPHY.
BIJOU PICTURE PALACE. Pictures are Comic, Dramatic, Educational, Travels, etc. Too numerous to mention all. 18 STAR PICTURES, and the Latest.
PRICES AS USUAL, 1/6, 1/, AND SIXPENCE. ABSOLUTELY THE BEST SHOW IN THE CITY.

SPECIAL.
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THE BURNS-JOHNSON CONTEST.
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THE BURNS-JOHNSON CONTEST.
MOVING PICTURES AT STADIUM,
MOVING PICTURES AT STADIUM,
MOVING PICTURES AT STADIUM.
TWO MORE NIGHTS ONLY.
TWO MORE NIGHTS ONLY.
TO-NIGHT
and
SATURDAY NIGHT.
BURNS AND JOHNSON CONTEST.
THE WORLD'S CHAMPIONSHIP ONCE MORE.
The greatest series of pictures since motion photography became a fine art, showing every face in the 20,000 present, the crush outside, the advance training tactics of both champions, and every detail of the 14-round battle until stopped by the police.
MUSIC BY THE NEWTOWN BRASS BAND.
ONLY A SHORT SEASON LEFT.
SEE THESE PICTURES NOW.
The Stadium is as cool as an ocean liner, and there are seats for all at 5/, 3/, 2/, 1/.
Gates open at 7 p.m.
Band plays at 8.15 p.m.
EDMUND COVELL, Governing Director.

ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. PUBLIC HOLIDAY.

MANDOLIN, VIOLIN, GUITAR, BANJO TUITION, by Mr. FRANCIS ROBT. PERL and Assistants. THE SYDNEY ORCHESTRAL COLLEGE, PERL'S STUDIOS, 5 Hunter-street.

MISS ETHEL CLIFFORD, Ballet Mistress, etc., I.O.O.F. Temple, Ella.-st. Classes and Priv. Less. SUSPENDED till FEB. 1st, 1909. Letters during holidays to Palace Chest., city.

THE Amazing Mary Grotte Garden, St. George's-crescent, Drummoyne, will (Weather permitting) open to Ladies and Gentlemen in the Afternoons of Friday and Saturday. Adults, 1s; Children, 6d; Babies in arms Free. C. BOOD, Proprietor, Treasurer, Hon. Caretaker, No. 3 Macquarie-place, city.

CORREY'S GARDENS, NEW YEAR'S DAY.—Return Steamer Fare, 6d. Grounds and Pavilion, 1s.

MANLY.—HOTEL STEYNE. An Excellent Lunch and Dinner. Daily and Sundays.

WHERE TO TO-MORROW?—To Freshwater, Manly, on the Beach, where ocean breezes blow. ERNEST C. V. BROUGHTON sells Ocean Frontages at 5.30 p.m. Also Cliff House, 6 rooms, splendid investment.

ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, SATURDAY. ROSEBERY RACES.

CRITERION THEATRE.
HOLIDAY MATINEE, TO-DAY (NEW YEAR'S DAY).
MATINEE. THE GAYEST OF THE GAY. TO-DAY.
MATINEE. Children, Half-price every TO-DAY.
MATINEE. where TO-DAY.
MATINEE. except to Gallery. TO-DAY.
MATINEE. Performance at 2; Doors open at 1. TO-DAY.

CRITERION THEATRE.
SPECIAL BOX OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE HOLIDAY.
THE BOX PLAN FOR
WILLIAM ANDERSON'S GREAT HOLIDAY ATTRACTION,
THE GAYEST OF THE GAY,
will be on view TO-

A LIGHT FLAT WATCH FOR 10/.

This is a very low-priced Watch indeed, but you can rest assured it will do its duty faithfully.

It is a Keyless Watch with a strong crystal glass and oxidised case.

Being so flat, it takes up very little space in the pocket, and is extremely light. These advantages in no way interfere with its movement, and you can depend on it keeping good time.

We will send the Watch post free to your address, and if it does not please you just send it back and we will refund your money.

Our Catalogue gives particulars of many other Watches. Ask for a copy.

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WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS, OPTICIANS,

GEORGE-STREET, CORNER ROYAL ARCADE, SYDNEY, OPP. THE BAROMETER, Q. V. MARKETS.

"FOR MEN MUST WORK!"

Most men know the awful drag that work sometimes is. Many have experienced the depressed feeling that is generally described as "out of sorts." It is essential that the breadwinner should maintain his health and spirits—for loss of work often means loss of income. Lest worse ensue, these minor troubles ought not to be neglected. Many have found that

BEECHAM'S PILLS

act quickly and reliably in regulating the digestive and secretive organs. They set the sluggish liver to work, aid the bowels, correct the stomach, and assist the kidneys. The pills are indeed a sound investment; saving their value times over. Experience proves that, taken regularly, they

KEEP YOU FINE AND FIT.

Prepared only by THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens, ENG.

Sold everywhere in boxes. Price, 10½d (56 pills), 1/1½ (56 pills), and 2/9 (168 pills).

H. JONES & CO.'S IXL WORCESTER SAUCE.

AWARDED

GOLD MEDAL, FRANCO-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED.

START THE NEW YEAR PROPERLY.

It will be a splendid start for the New Year if you decide to use William White Bread throughout 1909.

It is an ideal bread, being made from the finest flour, and baked to perfection.

The cleanest handling prevails, and most of the mixing is done by machinery. Try a few loaves, and test the bread—it's always the same good quality. You can order a carter to call by telephoning No. 192 Redfern, or 267 Newtown. Do it now!

WILLIAM WHITE, FOR GOOD BREAD, REDFERN AND NEWTOWN.

STOCK, SHARES, AND MONEY.

REVOLUTION IN MONEY-LENDING.

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BEING THE ACTUAL LENDER, LENDS MONEY CHEAPER THAN ANY OFFICE IN SYDNEY, in Sums from £5 to £5000. EXISTING LOANS PAID OFF IN A FEW HOURS.

ADVANCES MADE UPON FURNITURE, JEWELLERY, PRO. NOTES, INTEREST UNDER WILLS, and ALL MERCANTILE SECURITIES. BILLS DISCOUNTED. My Motto: "Courteous Treatment, Civility, and Money Sharp."

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AND AT MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, AND NEWCASTLE. EUSTACE BENNETT, General Manager.

THIS COMPANY WAS FORMED TO SUPPRESS USURY.

STEPHENSON AND CO.,

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(ONE DOOR FROM KING-STREET).

Advances Money on Furniture, Pianos, etc. (without possession or publicity), and all other classes of security, at the LOWEST RATES IN TOWN, and with the strictest privacy guaranteed. EASY TERMS OF REPAYMENTS, EXISTING LOANS PAID OFF. Call and see us, and you will be satisfied, and will do business with us. If unable to call, write us.

Large amounts from 5 per cent. Tel., 1048 City.

A.—MONEY LENT BY A. WOLFER, 50 ELIZABETH-STREET, SYDNEY, 50, between King and Hunter streets, on Furniture, Pianos, Sewing Machines, and Deeds, at REASONABLE RATES of interest. EASY REPAYMENTS. Existing Loans in other offices paid off. DO NOT BE MISLED by flattering advertisements of cheap interest, but call first on me and ascertain the prices. MY MOTTO IS FAIR DEALING. The Public who have had dealings with me in the past, I am sure of their confidence. Those who do not know me I ask to favour with a call before arranging a Loan elsewhere.

Office Hours: 50 Elizabeth-street, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Branch Office: 65 Glebe-road, Glebe, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

MONEY ADVANCED PRIVATELY, upon all classes of Security.

ADVANCES UPON FURNITURE.

We make a special feature of Advancing upon this class of security, in large or small sums, without PUBLICITY or REGISTRATION, at Lower Rates of INTEREST and EASIER REPAYMENTS than obtainable elsewhere. BORROWERS who are now paying HIGH RATES and EXCESSIVE REPAYMENTS are INVITED to call upon us, and we shall be pleased to take over their accounts upon more advantageous terms.

THE MORTGAGE, LOAN, AND FINANCE CO. OF AUSTRALIA, LTD.,

Equitable-chambers, 120 Pitt-street, Sydney.

Corner Park-street, opp. Criterion Theatre.

Tel., 2467. JNO. ORAMS, Secretary.

A.—MONEY LENT BY A. WOLFER, 50 ELIZABETH-STREET, SYDNEY, 50, between King and Hunter streets, on Furniture, Pianos, Sewing Machines, and Deeds, at REASONABLE RATES of interest. EASY REPAYMENTS. Existing Loans in other offices paid off. DO NOT BE MISLED by flattering advertisements of cheap interest, but call first on me and ascertain the prices. MY MOTTO IS FAIR DEALING. The Public who have had dealings with me in the past, I am sure of their confidence. Those who do not know me I ask to favour with a call before arranging a Loan elsewhere.

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STRICTLY PRIVATE. MONEY ADVANCED on Furniture and Pianos (without possession or registration), Deeds, Personal, or any Security. No fees or fees. Easy Repayments. Existing Loans paid off. J. BLOOM, 115, CORNER BATHURST AND CASTLEREAGH STS.

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TRUST FUNDS to LEND at 4 PER CENT. on city or suburban freehold, or leasehold properties, dairy farms, stations, etc., municipal loans, building loans, and on deposit of deeds, scrip, etc.

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ANY PERSON requiring a LOAN of MONEY PRIVATELY, please WRITE to me, or CALL ANY EVENING from 7 to 9. B. JONES, 60 Regent-street, Paddington, off Oxford-street.

HOWARD'S Wonderful Full-size Music, 2 a penny. Write for lists. Woollahra.

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DON'T TAKE NOTICE OF WHAT PEOPLE TELL YOU. COME AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF. YOU WILL BE SATISFIED.

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I LEND MONEY PRIVATELY AND WITHOUT SECURITY TO ANY RESPONSIBLE PERSONS IN PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT, as follows:—

£5 for £1, repayable 5s WEEKLY.
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£18 for £3, repayable 7s 6d WEEKLY.
£20 for £4, repayable 7s 6d weekly.
And upwards to £500,000. Also on Furniture, Pianos, Sewing Machines (without taking possession), Deeds, Diamonds, Jewellery, Bond Warrants, etc., in a few hours' notice. M. JOSEPH, 106 King-street, 2 doors from Pitt-street, 1st floor upstairs. 'Phone, 1346.

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M. DE P. COMPANY, LTD., 186 CASTLEREAGH-STREET, corner of Park-street. SPECIAL NOTICE.—Customers have the advantage of a side entrance, through vestibule next door (No. 37 Park-street), thus affording absolute privacy.

INTERESTS UNDER WILLS, ENGLAND, Australia, and Australasia. We advance large or small sums, or purchase all kinds of interests under Wills or marriage settlements, life interests, annuities, etc., Lowest Interest. Temporary advance on day of application. Collections on commission. Inquiries free. EVERY PRIVACY.

R. MURRAY and CO.,

87 Elizabeth-street, sydney.

PRIVATE LOANS TO ANY PERSON IN PERMANENT EMPLOYMENT, ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT SECURITY.

I also LEND MONEY ON FURNITURE, PIANOS, SEWING MACHINES, ETC., ON VERY EASY TERMS and low repayments, WITHOUT POSSESSION OR REGISTRATION. Farmers can be accommodated. Existing Loans taken over and placed on a better footing.

GIVE ME A CALL, OR WRITE.

HERBERT JILLETT, Bull's-chambers, 14 Moore-st. Telephone, 4844.

MONEY ADVANCED on Furniture, Pianos, Sewing Machines, etc. No Fees. Strictly Private, and Without Registration. Existing Loans paid off. Lowest rate of int. W. BERKMAN, 397 King-st, Nth. T., 378 N.

ANYONE wishing to obtain a Loan privately kindly write to me, or call any evening, from 7 to 9. Mrs. BOND, 96 Albion-street, Annandale. Take Leichhardt trams to Johnston-street.

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TO LEND, £5 to £500, personal security, repayable by instalments. J. G. Read, 255 Pitt-st. T., 2555.

SMALL LOANS arranged privately, from £1, no charges, easy repayments. Faith, P.O., Ashfield.

GEO. TAYLOR, 156 Q. V. Markets, 1st floor. Money priv., and at lower interest than any other office.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

(Continued from Page 10.)

THE NEW MODELS, 10 AND 11,

VISIBLE REMINGTON

CONSTITUTE AN EPOCH-MAKING ADVANCE IN THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TYPEWRITER.

These new Models combine all the famous REMINGTON qualities with new improvements, which are a revelation in time and labour saving. They do more than supply every demand; they ANTICIPATE every demand of every user of the writing machine.

SOME OF THE NEW FEATURES.

New Single Dog Escapement.
New Column Selector (Model 10).
New Built-in Decimal Tabulator (Model 11).
New Carriage Governor.
New Back Space Key.
New Variable Line Spacing Lock.
New Shift Lock.
New Paper Feed.

STOTT AND HOARE, LTD.,

MOORE-STREET, SYDNEY.

QUEEN'S JUBILEE FUND.

THE OFFICE of the QUEEN'S JUBILEE FUND will be CLOSED during the month of JANUARY.

HELEN SABINA GARRAN, Secretary.

WINDOWS CLEANED, 3s; BEST ENGLISH MAINSPRINGS, 2s. REPAIRS guaranteed one year. KOLAN, TIRE, and CO., 703 George-street, Haymarket.

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ON THE LAND.

FARM AND STATION.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

The year just concluded is one that will be viewed by the men on the land with mixed feelings. It cannot be considered generally a bounteous one, yet taken as a whole, will probably be summed up with satisfaction by the majority. At present, with the exception of the west, and parts of the South Coast, the State has experienced a fairly good season. Both in the beginning and at the end of the year the west, however, has contended against hard conditions, although for a time during the winter and early spring, it seemed as if matters had taken a turn for the better. The failure of the wheat crop came as a harsh disappointment, and it is being followed by a dry, severe summer. Southern Riverina also underwent a cruel handling in the early portion of the year, when nature's relentlessness, aggravated by man's incapacity, resulting in the notorious shortage of trucks, added to the difficulties of the people. In that part of the State, however, relief has followed in the shape of a bounteous harvest, better than appeared possible a short time ago, as well as plenty of feed, where there had been barrenness. The South Coast also passed through a trying ordeal at the beginning of the past year, an experience unprecedented probably in the history of the famous Illawarra. The year 1908, therefore, has impressed itself rather bitterly upon a portion of the rural community. Against this, other parts of the State have enjoyed a period of good prices. The year indeed has been conspicuous for the value of produce of almost all kinds. Unfortunately, this has been mainly due to shortage of production, and the benefit therefore must have been limited. While there was a sharp decline in the wool market, the prices ruling were nevertheless profitable to the grower, although appearing small in consequence of the high mark previously recorded. The wool market has, however witnessed a wonderful recovery, which is calculated to inspire increased confidence in the main industry of this country. Stock throughout the year has maintained good value, and it would seem beyond all doubt that as far as fat stock is concerned, the export trade, while yet in its infancy, must always exercise a beneficent influence on the market. This provides security to the careful farmer, and the grazier who is wise enough to depend upon something more than the natural pastures of his property. The wheat market, after the last harvest, kept at a high fructe, which compensated to a great extent for the poor crops of the 1907-8 season. Although the price has now receded, the outlook at present for wheat-growers is a cheering one, as the results over the greater part of the wheat belt will ensure a profitable return, and in many instances mean a very fine revenue. The year has been a mixed one for dairy farmers, for while the prices of products have been high, conditions have been unfavourable to a large section of them. Much the same may be said as regards the fruit-growers, who at least now appear to be fronted with good prospects. Taken as a whole, the year will probably be found to have been a good one to the majority of the men on the land, for in most cases there have been compensations.

Apart from climatic conditions, the national standpoint is immediately concerned with two features of the rural progress: the progress of the man on the land and the progress made towards placing more men securely upon it. As regards the latter important phase, the past year has seen considerable development in this direction, although mainly at the hands of private enterprise. A large area of land has been subdivided and settled upon. The salutary effect of this has, however, been largely retarded by the high values ruling for land, and the undoubted fact that much of this subdivision has not resulted so much in increased settlement as in the aggregation of adjoining small holdings. While this is a flattering commentary upon the soundness of the districts concerned, and a substantial proof that farming is a profitable calling in this country, it does not meet the urgent demand for increased settlement and development. As far as it has gone, however, land settlement during the past year has amply demonstrated the virtue of this generally-accepted policy. At the present time, anyone travelling through any considerable number of inland towns in this State must be struck with the signs of progress in almost every one. No matter how quiet business may be said to be, new buildings and additions are the general order of the day. Yet we are undoubtedly only touching the fringe of this question, and the coming year will have to see some more rapid form of development than has yet been the case. Population is our urgent necessity, and it can only be securely gained by the settlement of rural lands. How little our land is settled can only be realised by those who travel through it and find on all sides, and in the most fertile districts, immense territories of unoccupied land—unoccupied at least as far as men are concerned. And we want men. In this respect the Government resumptions during the coming year will be most welcomed, and particularly in Riverina, for in no portion of the State is there room for greater development. But it is impossible for the State, by way of resumptions, to people the land quickly and find room not only for our own landless men, but for the stream of farmers that should be coming here from other countries. The State indeed will probably find its financial resources fully strained in undertaking the necessary vigorous policy of railway expansion, which must accompany land settlement. Whether the interests of closer settlement, as seems the case, will demand a more equitable adjustment of land values or not, the question is of such importance to the State that it cannot be left to be merely an immense material benefit to those who are the fortunate possessors of large fertile areas, or to the enterprising syndicates.

During the year one of the most important signs of progress was the formation at Berry of the Illawarra Cow-testing Association, the first of its kind in Australia. Of the immense benefit of such organisations to the dairying industry there is now no question, and it is to be hoped that the example of the South Coast will be speedily followed elsewhere. There is every indication that dairy farming will expand. In the north-west, the north, and in parts of Riverina there is scope for this industry, and it is important that the value of testing should be generally recognised. Otherwise a large area of good country will be given over to animals which do not pay for their keep, and, while that is the case, the drudgery so much complained of can never be done away with. With up-to-date methods, such as testing and the milking machines, which have undoubtedly proved a success, combined with absolute cleanliness, the industry from a labour standpoint can be placed upon an entirely different footing. The dairy farmer will always to an extent be tied down to his work—the price paid for quick, sure profits—but there is no necessity, where he at least has his own holding, for him and his family to be slaves to the industry. At present unfortunately it must be admitted that the farm end of the industry is capable of great improvement, and much educational work remains to be done.

While there has been no notable phase in the sheep and wool industry it is pleasing to mark that there is a regular development, and that the increase of the small men is bringing about a general improvement The time is rapidly approaching when the stigma attached to the "cockies' clip" will be a thing of the past, and the small men's wool be not only of the first quality but properly put upon the market. Education will also be necessary in this direction, but it is already apparent that the high standard and reputation of our wool and sheep industry will not be diminished by the advent of closer settlement. Indeed, it will be the means to a great extent of preventing those regular wholesale decimations of our flocks that have been such a matter of concern in the past. Amongst our wheat-growers there is a slow but sure tendency towards better methods of cultivation, for which we have undoubtedly to thank the importation of the hundreds of farmers from the southern States now scattered throughout our wheat belt. The advantage of fallowing, thorough tillage, and rotation of crops is being slowly realised, but here also the educator has plenty of work to do. Amongst no other section of the community, perhaps, has there been greater education during the last twelve months than with our fruitgrowers. They have now realised the fact that salvation lies in following the lead given by the authorities, and waging universal war against the terrible pests that have established themselves in our midst. They are also recognising that in addition there is great scope for co-operation in their ranks, and with the growth of this principle the time will be when the producer will obtain a more equitable return for his labour. The importation of great quantities of American apples towards the end of the year has been sufficient in itself to show that there are weak places in the industry apart from the matter of seasons, and the future should see attention paid to cold storage, co-operative handling of the fruit, and other methods likely to ensure a more stable basis to this important industry.

While we are justified in feeling that there has been some improvement in methods amongst rural producers during the past year, it must be recognised that there is a tremendous amount of educational work to be done in the future. There is scope in every direction amongst sheepbreeders, wheat-growers, dairy farmers, and fruitgrowers. This is the great duty that faces the new Department of Agriculture. This article would not be complete without reference to the new department. There was no more notable happening last year than the creation of a separate Department of Agriculture. It was the long-delayed recognition of the rural producers' primary importance, although that recognition has not yet reached the level that it should. When it does the Department of Agriculture will be the first department in the State. Although progress up to the present has been disappointing, it is only fair to recognise that great difficulties were in the way—difficulties inseparable from a new organisation, and in this case intensified by lack of funds. It was only when the recent estimates were reached that a chance was afforded to provide the department with the necessary money for development. While there was an appreciable increase in the amount provided, it might well have been considerably more in view of what has to be done. There are great responsibilities before the department and the Minister, and much depends upon the administration during the coming year as to how they are met. In one thing, however, Mr. Perry is fortunate, in that he possesses the respect and confidence of the whole rural community. There is practically a universal belief in the sympathy and spirit that underlies his aims and ambitions, and it is doubtful if any other Minister possesses such confidence. Mr. Perry has splendid material to work upon amongst his experts, particularly in the field, and by securing their sympathetic co-operation by being in practical touch with them and slashing mercilessly at much of the traditional red tape, he can make the Department of Agriculture what it should be—the best friend that the man on the land has. The coming year will see in how far he succeeds.

A YEAR'S LAND TRANSACTIONS.

An interesting return has been issued from the Registrar-General's office showing the total area and declared value of land comprised in Crown grants and applications under the Real Property Act. These have been brought up to December 27, 1908. At the end of December, 1907, the area so comprised was 30,748,748 acres 2 roods 14 perches, and the declared value at the dates of the applications was £59,246,245. Crown grants were registered during 1908 for 1,587,130 acres 33 perches, the value of these lands being declared as £1,492,979; while the land comprised in applications received during the year was 85,916 acres 3 roods 25 perches, and its total declared value £1,169,863. There were 570 applications, representing 201 properties, to bring lands under the Real Property Act; these represented 2654 acres 31 perches of town and suburban lands, and 82,262 acres 2 roods 34 perches of country lands, the combined value of the two classes being £1,169,863.

From January 1, 1900, to December 27, 1908, the number of Crown grants registered was 12,867, representing 2894 acres 2 roods 11 perch of town and suburban lands, and 1,584,238 acres 2 roods 32½ perches of country lands. The total area was therefore 1,587,130 acres 33½ perches, and their value was £1,492,979. As to the number of memorials registered under the Real Property Act during the year, there were 19,657 transfers, the consideration therefor being £9,775,717; also 9603 mortgages, the consideration for these being £10,285,206; and 6176 discharges of mortgages, the consideration for which aggregated £5,837,657. In addition to these, there was a large number of other transactions in the Registrar-General's office, the total fees payable for which were £39,330 18s. Adding to these the fees for searches and so on, the total fees amounted to £44,383 18s 6d. There is a substantial advance in these figures over those for 1907.

INSPECTION OF STALLIONS.

There is a good deal of discussion going on just now all over Australia on the subject of the inspection and certification of stallions, and the same thing is being discussed in America. The State of New Jersey has, however, gone further than any of the other States. A law has been passed by the Legislature authorising the Live Stock Commission to buy and maintain stallions of the draught and coach breeds for use and centrifugal pump centres of the State, and where breeders' associations are formed. Farmers can be allowed at a nominal cost the use of these stallions upon mares of merit and type. But it does not end there. It is enacted that persons who keep animals for public service shall receive notices in the county papers that on a certain date in each year an examining board will inspect their stallions, and the owners thereof must present their horses with certified pedigrees and all necessary papers. No owner who is not licensed by this board shall be allowed to offer the services of his horse for a fee to the public. Where an owner fails to comply with the provisions of the law a penalty is attached—a fine of 50 dollars for the first offence, and 100 dollars for the second.

A good deal of adverse comment has been engendered by the passing of this Act, but its supporters argue that in the course of a very few years the enforcement of the law will make a difference in value in the horse stock of the State amounting to millions of dollars, because of the higher quality of the stock which will be bred.

THE SHEEP FLY.

Mr. R. S. Allan writes:—Re the controversy on the above subject, despite the assertion of New Zealand's veterinary surgeon, there is much doubt as to the class of fly. Years ago in N.Z., when the fly was more virulent than at present, the evidence pointed to the common "blue bottle," particularly in the case of "coal" ewes near lambing time. Such applications as tar, oil, etc., have proved merely temporary, or effective only after the eggs are hatched. What is really sought is a preventive. Following upon the remarks of Mr. Webb, of Bathurst, I can only reiterate what he has said concerning dipping. Practically speaking, New Zealand is free from the fly, and this has been brought about by thorough and systematic dipping of sheep off the shears. The maggot is now rarely found except close upon shearing, or on a "double fleecer." The fly found blowing dead wool, and the fly that lays its eggs on the sheep's rump, may be caught on our window-pane any summer.

NEW SOUTH WALES FRUIT.

EXHIBITED IN LONDON.

In connection with the London annual show of colonial fruits, organised by the Royal Horticultural Society, the Agent-General, Mr. Coghlan, took the opportunity of keeping New South Wales before the public eye by exhibiting a collection of bottled and dried fruits from the New South Wales Department of Agriculture. He also exhibited specimens of olive oil, cider, and other products. The exhibition, which was opened by Lord Strathcona, was, he says in a letter to the Premier, a very fine one, as the apples from British Columbia, Ontario, and other Canadian provinces were just in their prime. There were also excellent collections of tropical fruits from Dominica, Jamaica, Cyprus, and other parts of the Empire.

Mr. Coghlan goes on to say: "Although our fruits, owing to their long exposure at the Franco-British Exhibition, were hardly at their best, still they were highly thought of both by the judges and by the numerous visitors who attended the show, and I am pleased to say that the Department of Agriculture was awarded a silver medal for the display. I trust that from time to time new exhibits of bottled and dried fruits will be sent to me so that I may make the best use of the many opportunities offered for advertising our State. New South Wales was the only Australian State represented in this exhibition, but the New Zealand Government had a handsome display of fresh and preserved fruits, for which they were also awarded a silver medal."

The Department of Agriculture explains that three cases of apples and two cases of citrus fruits were despatched. The apples were grown at the experiment farm, Bathurst, and were "Granny Smith," "Rome Beauty," and "Munro Favourite." The lemons and oranges were grown at the experiment farm, Pera Bore.

LAND SELECTED.

The following statement shows the lands selected under the Crown Lands Acts during the week ended December 23, and during the 25 weeks from July 1 to December 23, 1908:—

Class of Holding.	During the week ended Dec. 23, 1908. No. of Applicants.	Area. Acres.	During the 25 weeks from July 1 No. of Applicants.	Area. Acres.
ORIGINAL HOLDINGS.				
Applied for as—				
Original conditional purchases	17	1,325	730	112,510
Conditional leases applied for simultaneously with and in virtue of these c.o.p.'s	(11)	2,625	(434)	191,675
			189	147,537
Conditional purchase leases			112	22,560
Original homestead selections			82	275,342
Original settlement leases	1	4,020		
Total of new settlers	18	7,980	1,112	750,624
ADDITIONAL HOLDINGS.				
Applied for as—				
Additional conditional purchases (of Crown lands)	21	1,857	468	69,065
Conditional leases not taken simultaneously with c.o.p.'s	28	9,051	695	221,925
Additional homestead selections	4	2,326	42	14,472
Additional settlement leases			23	24,504
Total	53	14,100	1,228	330,567

EXPERIMENTAL PLOTS.

YIELDS AT TEMORA.

A number of crops grown on the experimental plots from seed supplied by the Cowra Experimental Farm were harvested last week, and the results are interesting. The following yields were obtained from the various varieties of wheat grown on Mr. John Donaldson's farm, near the Barmedman-road. Each variety of wheat was allotted half an acre, and 36lb of wheat and 56lb of superphosphate were used per acre. The yields per half-acre were: Federation, 9 bushels 40lb; Jonathan, 7 bushels 20lb; Imperial, 7 bushels 16lb; Rhymer, 3lb, 6 bushels 18lb, and 6 bushels 16lb; Rhymer, 6 bushels 35lb; Comeback, 6 bushels 27lb.

The wheat on the experimental plots at South Combaning, near Temora, was also harvested last week, and the result is again in favour of Federation. Mr. Duncan Sinclair, who, by the way, harvested 600 acres this year for an average yield of 16 bushels, planted four half-acre plots. From the same quantity of seed of each variety the yields were:—Federation, 23 bushels per acre; Comeback, 20 bushels; Bunyip, 18 bushels; and Genos, 16 bushels. Mr. Sinclair carried out another experiment, which serves to show the relative reproductive power of different varieties of wheat. Last year 20lb of each variety was sown, and the wheat harvested from each lot sown was put in this year. The result was interesting. Federation gave a return of 240 bushels, while the same quantity of Rhymer yielded 222 bushels, John Brown 144 bushels, and Bobs 132 bushels. This goes to demonstrate the superior yielding power of Federation. Rhymer was close up, and the experience of an adjoining farmer places Rhymer above the others. Mr. Klinge had some experimental plots, which went as follows per half-acre:—Rhymer, 11 bushels 10lb; John Brown, 10 bushels 32lb; Thew, 9 bushels 23lb; Marshall's No. 3, 9 bushels; Comeback, 8 bushels 33lb. Mr. Klinge said the Rhymer looked the poorest crop of the lot, while Comeback showed out well from the beginning. He had Federation in the main crop, but harvesting had not been completed. The yield promised to be heavy, both from Federation and Dart's Imperial. These two varieties hold the pride of place in the Temora district.

BATHURST.—Mr. R. W. Peacock, manager of the experimental farm, has just completed another experiment in thin-sowing, and the results are very satisfactory. From a stud block of Cleveland wheat on one-tenth of an acre the yield was 4 bushels 11lb from 8oz of seed. This gives a yield per acre of 40 bushels 10lb from 5lb 10oz of seed to the acre. This seed yields 428 times more than the amount sown, and is the highest yield from any of the stud blocks.

TICKS AT THE TWEED.

MURWILLUMBAH.—The Tweed has been further proclaimed a tick quarantine area for a period of six months.

BLAYNEY'S BAD YEAR.

BLAYNEY.—The year just closing was the worst year Blayney has known so far as existing records can prove or the oldest residents can recall. The total rainfall was 2101 points, against 2717 points last year, and 3114 points in 1906. Thus this year is practically 8in short in rainfall as compared with last year, itself abnormally dry. The average here is over 26in, so that this shortage is nearly 11in this year. For the past quarter the shortage compared with last year was 4½in, and compared with 1906 nearly 7½in. Last year a grasshopper plague wiped out all the grass, leaving farmers to face the winter with no natural feed for cattle. This year, so far, grasshoppers have been infinitely worse than last year; but if good rain falls in January and February there will be a good winter show; unless the grasshopper plague recurs.

AN IRRIGATION PLANT.

WELLINGTON.—Mr. W. Waring, of Ponto, has just completed the erection of an up-to-date irrigation plant on his property. A 16-h.p. oil engine drives a 4-inch centrifugal pump connected with a main pipe nine chains in length and 16 chains of spray piping, spraying 30ft on each side. The plant under full pressure is capable of distributing an inch of water on an acre in an hour. Mr. Waring has also erected a 6000-gal. tank on a stand some 20ft in height. This is filled by a windmill, and the water is then distributed over the orchard, which is sown with lucerne, by means of spray pipes.

THE HARVEST.

CANOWINDRA.—It has been stated that the crops in the Canowindra district, according to the opinions of a visitor, would yield less than a bag per acre for the whole district. As a matter of fact, competent authorities assert that the average for the whole district will be from 1½ to 12 bushels per acre. In isolated cases (where the paddocks were not wire-netted) only a little over a bag average was obtained, but in the great majority of cases the crops are yielding 4, 5, and 6 bags to the acre, and instances of 30 bushels are recorded.

COOMA.—Harvesting is in full swing.

THE CLIP.

COOMA.—Shearing is practically completed, though wool is still passing through freely to the railway station. It is generally a good clip.

DAIRYING.

TAMWORTH.—Mr. J. T. Hammond, manager of the Glenifer Butter Factory, near Bellingen, has been appointed manager of the Tamworth Factory in succession to Mr. J. P. Kenny.

DISTRICT ITEMS.

CARGO.—Warm and dry weather still prevails in this district. Grass has completely dried off, and stock are beginning to fall away. If rain does not soon fall the outlook will be very serious. Harvesting operations are almost completed in this part of the district. Taking the unfavourable season into consideration the yield has been very fair. Maize crops look well, but are in need of moisture.

CANOWINDRA.—Farmers are finding that as well as for lucerne-growing the Belubula flats are specially suited for maize. This year, although extremely dry, the corn crops are growing remarkably well, and practical farmers now assert that by adopting proper methods of tilling the soil good crops can be obtained every year. With the arrival of the railway a large area will be devoted to this class of farming.

DELEGATE.—Reports state that in portions of this district grasshoppers are in evidence in great numbers, and are playing great havoc. One property is said to be barer as a result of the visitation of these pests than it has been for very many years. The weather continues very dry. The appearance of the country has altered considerably for the worse during the past few weeks. Some crops are getting in a bad way for want of rain.

GRAFTON.—During the year closing on Thursday 235 conditional purchase applications and 195 conditional lease applications were lodged at the Grafton Lands Office, in addition to other forms of tenure, constituting a record year for the district.

LISMORE.—The country everywhere is now a perfect picture of verdure. Cream supplies are increasing greatly.

NEW SYDNEY.

A GREAT CITY TAKING STOCK.

NO. XXII.

A RETURNED TRAVELLER.

The new Lord Mayor of Sydney, Alderman Allen Taylor, fresh from his travels in Europe, and his special investigations into municipal work, was able to give much valuable material to the Royal Commission on City Improvement. Not having followed the transactions of the commission, he necessarily traversed the same ground over which a number of other witnesses had passed before him. There was an advantage in this, inasmuch as it could not be said that Mr. Taylor was impressed in his opinion of certain improvements by what others had said. No doubt a good deal of consideration was given by him to the subject while in Europe. He could not fail, while viewing the beautifications of such cities as Paris and Berlin, and the bold improvements in London, to make comparisons with Sydney, and to evolve suggestions which might be advanced on his return.

MEASURING THE IMPORTANCE OF SYDNEY.

Alderman Taylor, in the course of his comparisons at first hand, realised that Sydney was a great city, and destined to be a greater. Certainly, the figures relating to trade, population, tramway and railway traffic, commerce, etc., which have already been produced to the commission, have startled the average citizen, who looks upon Sydney as a series of small boroughs, with no cohesion, and no central government. In matters where the interests and the statistics of the whole city cannot be separated, the results are somewhat disturbing to the citizen who thinks in boroughs, and not in cities, and regards the suburbs as having distinct, and even hostile, interests, as against the central Sydney, or even against any other neighbouring borough across the centre line of a "prescribed street." Most Sydney travellers, returning from abroad after a sojourn long enough to enable them to get over their Pyrmontism, their Randwickism, or their Darlington sympathies, see the great city of Sydney as a whole, and realise that in its central and commercial interests, its civic soul, it is one and indivisible, although its physical entity may be severed into infinitesimal parts. In such a spirit, viewing it from afar, in its proper civic perspective, at a distance sufficient to blur all the boundaries, Alderman Taylor sees the great city as a whole, and realises that "it is already one of the big cities of the British Empire, and is destined, by its geographical position, and its natural and political advantages, to be one of the great and beautiful cities of the world."

OUTSPOKEN CRITICISM.

That we are backward in adjusting our resources to our growing greatness is a fact generally admitted; it is the raison d'etre of the commission. But no other witness was so outspoken as to the cause of our backwardness; no other witness so clearly apportioned the blame for the strangling of Sydney's commerce by bad communication and obsolete methods; or castigated the voluntary blindness which penalised the commercial community, and, through them, the whole State. The loss on the handling of our great commercial traffic caused by natural difficulties which could have been artificially cured long ago, must be enormous. Who is to blame? Alderman Taylor hits the bull's-eye when he says that "Sydney has lagged behind any town of its size in the Empire, owing, for the most part, to the fact that the successive Premiers had not correctly estimated the importance of municipal government." It remains to be seen whether that succession of near-sighted Premiers has been exhausted, or whether, "as Amurath to Amurath succeeds," the dynasty is to be continued. It may be that the appointment of the commission is a sign and portent that the latest of the race has begun to appraise the value of municipal government in its fullest manifestation, if not as well as his immediate predecessor, at any rate better than his forerunners.

THE INTERESTS INVOLVED.

As Alderman Taylor intends to propose bold and costly measures, he lays the groundwork by showing the magnitude of the interests involved. The value of our fixed property, without doubt, is the result of our position as a great market, an entrepot, an exchange and clearing-house, not only for the State of New South Wales, but for the whole Commonwealth to a greater or less extent. Alderman Taylor lets us see the relative values for rating purposes of Sydney. The rateable values of Greater Sydney are £102,646,130, and of this Inner Sydney contributed a value of £45,749,830; while the value of the remaining municipal areas of the State (including Newcastle and district) was only £39,417,000. Taking this comparison as a basis of his scheme, and in order to build up the mode which he proposes of raising the money, viz., a portion from the consolidated revenue, he proceeds to outline his improvements and the manner in which he proposes to carry them out.

UNDERGROUND TRAMS.

Alderman Taylor supports those who are in favour (wherever possible) of taking the tram traffic off the streets and putting it underground. Transit and tram connection, in the witness's opinion, were the chief questions to be dealt with. In this case the witness's objective is "to link up the whole of the suburban traffic by either underground or open electric railways;" "where possible the tube," says Alderman Taylor, and no doubt his recent experience in London and Paris must have confirmed him in this view. Keeping steadily in view his estimate of the future rapid growth of the city and its population (he uses Mr. Smith's estimate of a million within 20 years), he declares that the limit of safety has been reached with our over-taxed railway and tramway services, and that, therefore, "the Government was not justified in incurring further expenditure on a naturally imperfect and inadequate system, but should make provision for underground electric service, whether by train or tram, instead of perpetuating what was now a public nuisance to health, and a danger to life and limb." Thus Alderman Taylor supports the more radical witnesses, who not only desire to have an auxiliary passenger service into the city underground, but who would completely remove the surface tramways in the principal thoroughfares, and thus let loose the surface vehicle and pedestrian traffic, which is now greatly impeded, and frequently endangered, by the surface trams.

THE "SYMPHONY OF GROWTH."

As to all this we still, so far, have not had evolved before the commission any far-reaching scheme which will meet the probable needs of passenger traffic over a period of 25 years. Mr. Kneeshaw's new route through Annandale and Glebe may give some relief; the eastern suburbs line will give further relief; and if the tunnel extension of the underground city railway to Balmain, as outlined by Mr. Hutchinson, is carried out, it will also furnish a substantial measure of

BIRTHS.

PRIOR.—December 29, at Parramatta, the wife of Guy F. U. Prior, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LEAPE—PENDERED.—November 17, 1908, at the Manse, Campbell-street, Balmain, by Revd. J. Pender-Blair, James Martin, third son late J. Leape, Sydney, to Beatrice Claremont, fifth daughter F. H. Pendered, Balmain.

DEATHS.

BALDWIN.—December 29, 1908, at his residence, 235 Lambert-street, Bathurst, Robert Baldwin, aged 76, second son of the late Robert Baldwin, of Darby, Derbyshire, England.

BATHGATE.—December 31, at Manly, Ada Josephine Bathgate, dearly-beloved wife of Alfred James Bathgate, aged 34 years.

BURCHER.—December 31, at North Sydney, Eliza Harriett, beloved wife of William John Burcher (late of Irish Lords, Mouglel).

DREES.—December 30, 1908, at her late residence, Ferndale, Fairfield, Elizabeth Drees, aged 80 years. R.I.P. By request, no flowers.

HOLMES.—December 26, at private hospital, Gloucester, Frank, seventh son of Thomas Holmes (late of Oakendale, Clarence Town).

MURPHY.—December 30, 1908, at the Hospital of the Nursing Sisters, Nottingham, England, Thomas Edward Murphy, of Sydney, Solicitor, aged 50 years. Requiescat in pace.

WALCOTT.—December 31, at Hoxton Park, Liverpool, Henry Lyons Walcott, aged 63 years. Funeral to leave late residence 3 p.m. to-day, for Liverpool.

IN MEMORIAM.

AVIS.—In loving memory of my dear brother, Walter, who departed this life January 1, 1907. Inserted by his loving brother and sister-in-law, Ernest and Dora Avis.

DWYER.—Of your charity pray for the eternal repose of the soul of William Dwyer, who died January 1, 1876, on whose soul sweet Jesus have mercy. R.I.P. Inserted by R.P.

GRUMMETT.—In fond and loving memory of our darling little daughter and sister, Gladys, who departed this life on January 1, 1908, aged 11 years. Never forgotten. Inserted by her sorrowing parents, brothers, and sisters.

HAY.—In sad but loving memory of our dear daughter, Annie Hay, who departed this life in her 18th year at her parents' late residence, Ceiurca, Rushy-parade, Waverley, on January 1, 1903. Inserted by her loving parents, sisters, and brothers.

There is still a vacant place,
Which no one else can fill.

JOHNSTON.—In sad but loving memory of our dear aunt, Bridget Johnston, who departed this life January 1, 1907. Inserted by her loving nieces, nephew, Mrs. A. M. Lalor and family.

LINE.—In loving memory of our dearly beloved father, James, who departed this life January 1, 1908, aged 72. Rest in peace. Inserted by his loving sons, John, Fred, Edward, James, William, and Bertie.

MARSH.—In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, William Robert, who passed away January 1, 1908.

His memory dwells within the heart
Of the one that knew his worth.

Inserted by his affectionate wife, Maude Marsh.

PETCH.—In sad and loving memory of my dear husband, and our father, Francis Ernest Hill Petch, who was accidentally killed on January 1, 1906. Inserted by his loving wife and family, E. Pejch, Gosford.

PHILLIPS-TURNER.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who departed this life January 1, 1907, at Prince Alfred Hospital, aged 46 years.

You are not forgotten, mother dear,
Nor will you ever be.
As long as life and memory last
We will remember thee.

Inserted by her loving son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Alice Phillips.

RATCLIFFE.—In memory of my dear son Alfy, who departed this life 1st January, 1908. Deeply missed by his loving father, William Ratcliffe.

RUDD.—In loving memory of our dear daughter and sister, Agatha (Lettie) Rudd, who departed this life January 1, 1908. May she rest in peace. Inserted by her sorrowing parents and brother, J. and M. and Reggie Rudd.

RUDD.—In loving memory of Agatha Josephine (Tottie), only beloved daughter of Isaac and Mary Rudd, who departed this life January 1, 1908, aged 15½ years.

There's many a picture in memory's hall,
Hung up for the soul to survey,
But one of the best and dearest of all
We taken one year to-day.

Inserted by her loving friend, Hilda.

WILLIAMS.—In loving memory of my dearly beloved wife and our mother, Ursula Williams, who departed this life January 1, 1905, at Sofala, aged 53 years. Inserted by her loving husband and family.

WILLIAMS.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Priscilla, who passed away January 1, 1907; also our dear father, Edward, who died November 23, 1891. Inserted by their loving daughters Madge, Annie, Sadie, Lou, and Tot.

Peace, perfect peace,
With loved ones far away.
In Jesus' keeping we are safe, and they.

WILLIAMS.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Priscilla, who passed away January 1, 1907. Inserted by her loving sons, Robert, George, and Ted.

RETURN THANKS.

The WIDOW and CHILDREN of the late HENRY O'REILLY, of 78 Riley-street, Woolloomooloo, desire to THANK the many kind friends for their sympathy and assistance, and especially Mr. Kearey, of the Harp of Erin Hotel, and Mrs. McCarthy, of 44 Riley-street, and request that they will accept this as an acknowledgment in my sad bereavement.

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INDEX.

NEWS.

	Page.		Page.
Alleged Professionalism	5	Land Settlement	9
Alliance with China	5	Monetary and Commercial	9
Amusements	6	Mining Intelligence	9
Australian Rugby Tour	6	New Sydney	3
Bilimatt in Britain	5	News of the Day	2
Bankruptcy Business	7	On the Land—Review of the Year—Experimental Plots	3
Board and Displays	8	Items	3
Boxing Contest	5	Personal	4
Cablegrams	5	Pressure in Persia	6
Country News	6	Revenue Returns	6
Casualties	6	Retiring Lord Mayor	6
Clyde Shipbuilding	5	Shipping, Meteo., etc.	8
Commonwealth	4	Sporting Intelligence	8
Fighting Bush Fires	5	Sydney University	8
Fire Risks	3	Shire Councils	9
German Emperor	5	Sawmillers' Conference	9
Immigrants for Queensland	5	Story	5
Interstate News	5	Teralba Dispute	7
Interstate Cricket	5	The Mails	4
Italian Calamity	5	The Prize Fight	5
Labour Year	5	Trade in the Philippines	9
Leaders, etc	4		
Lessons from Abroad	3		

ADVERTISEMENTS.

	Page.		Page.
Amusements	2	Legal Notices	1
Apartments, Board, and Residence	10	Lost and Found	1
Auction Sales	10	Machinery	2
Births, Deaths, Marriages	4	Meetings	1
Bicycles and Motor Cars	1	Medical, Chemicals, etc.	10
Business Announcements	1	Miscellaneous	9
Businesses for Sale or Wanted	10	Municipal Elections	1
Coal, Firewood, etc.	10	Musical Instruments	10
Country Resorts	10	Personal and Missing Friends	9
Educational	1	Positions Vacant	10
Florists	2	Poultry, Dogs, etc.	10
For Sale	2	Professions, Trades, etc.	10
Funerals	10	Public Notices	3, 10
Furniture, etc.	10	Religious Announcements	1
Government Railways	2	Servants Wanted	10
Horses, Vehicles, and Live Stock	10	Shipping Announcements	1
Hotels	10	Servants Wanted	10
Houses and Land for Sale	10	Stocks, Shares, and Money	2
Houses, Land, etc. Wanted	10	Tenders	2
		To Let—Houses, etc.	10
		Wanted to Purchase	10

TELEPHONE NUMBERS.

Editorial and News Department	412
Business and Advertising	890 890

The Sydney Morning Herald.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1909.

1909.

At this break in the year one naturally wishes everybody happiness and prosperity, and the moment is favourable for a dispassionate look ahead as animosities sink and the better instincts prevail. We have celebrated the passing of the old year, realising that with all its failures and regrets it has marked a substantial step forward; and the new year has every promise of carrying on the story of progress which has been told so vigorously of Australia in the first decade of another century. But it is well to remind ourselves that a great deal must still depend upon ourselves. The seasons, no doubt, have much to do with our wellbeing, and a bad drought may easily again bring desolation, if not despair. Yet the worst drought in our experience did not unmake us as a people. Rather did it bring out the best qualities of the race, and on the steppingstones of loss and threatened ruin we have been able to rise to better things. Seasonal changes need not be feared as are, for instance, the possibilities of earthquake as in Italy and Sicily. Such awful suddenness of disaster makes us pause in the new year, and ask ourselves whether anything could be worse. San Francisco's plight was bad enough, but in the past week we have heard of whole cities wiped out, of a hundred thousand lives lost, and of extremities of suffering and wretchedness which make the heart ache. Truly in our prospect Australia has much to be thankful for, as in our retrospect we have recognised that the way has been upward to a fuller prosperity, in spite of many drawbacks. What is really worth study as we look ahead is something which may be discussed apart from the material progress that comes with increasing wealth as the wonderful resources of the State are developed. The coming year is likely to be one of the most important in Australian history, because it will be the prelude to a momentous general election in the Commonwealth, and because a possible dislocation of the peace of the world may test the statesmanship of our political leaders, as fire and earthquake are testing manhood and womanhood in Italy.

It would be idle to deny the very great importance of the frame of mind in which as a people we face the immediate future. The States in general, and New South Wales in particular, have reached a stage in their development where ill-advised experiments in the federal sphere may lead to serious disaster, and unless the moderate men in Commonwealth politics join hands to form a strong dominant body we shall find ourselves as the ten-year period approaches its close in danger of spoliation. If with the progress of the past to remind us of what we actually hold and must safeguard, we face the future determined that our representatives in Parliament shall not make our interests their counters in a personal game for party ends, or for class aggrandisement, there will be some hope of a reasonable settlement of outstanding differences. But if we are careless or indifferent the Federal politician will simply think of himself as he has been doing consistently for so long, and in State politics we may find an extension of the dry rot which has begun in Victoria. Not the least of our needs for stable, reputable, constitutional government lies, however, in the possibility of war in Europe in the spring. We hope and believe that, since the Powers do not want the cataclysm of a general struggle, they will be able to restrict the area of hostilities should the worst happen. But there are certain factors in the great problems of foreign politics which are incalculable, and in combination they may bring the world war. Any Federal Government that dares to use Australian defence for party or class ends at such a time as the present will deserve to be driven out at the point of the bayonet, and in looking ahead into the new year it is our imperative duty as a people to see that our politicians are not only awakened, but kept awake. The coming year may well be the most eventful in our century and a quarter of history, and no excuse need be offered for the suggestion that our good wishes to each other to-day should include one for a sound judgment in political affairs, and a new enthusiasm for straight and capable leadership.

ITALY AND HER DEAD.

The full details now to hand show that the earthquake that has devastated Southern Italy is one of the most disastrous known in the long record of seismic catastrophes. Both in area of disturbance and in intensity of shocks the present subsidence—for that in substance is what the earthquake is—surpasses that of 1905, which itself was one of the most terrible known in this district. The disaster places in a very lurid light the generalisation of the scientist, that where once an earthquake has occurred due to faulting there an earthquake will almost to a certainty happen again. Within the last century or two several thousand shocks of intensity worth noting have been recorded from Southern Italy, and a very considerable number of them have been nothing less than calamities. Yet it is an historic fact that, once the terror and the danger have passed away, the survivors, often a mere handful, return to their old home, and others are found to take the place of those who will return no more. It is one of the reproaches of science that its generalisations are not practically applicable, but seismology is at any rate able to teach one plain lesson—the folly of rebuilding on a line of fault. Yet no lesson has been more conspicuously disregarded. In the case of Southern Italy it has once again been plainly recorded, but it is pretty certain that the warning will once again be disregarded. As Professor Suess put it, with an epigrammatic cynicism not common among scientists, the shortness of life allows us to be of good cheer. Certainly after one big disaster the chances are that another will not occur in the same generation; but though this is so, science is quite unable to prophesy. In spite of the most careful study no one can claim to have revealed anything like periodicity in earthquake phenomena. The law of probability always comes in, but no one can say that another disaster may not overwhelm Calabria a few months hence.

The trouble, of course, is that the causes of earthquakes are too complex and obscure for analysis. Beyond the unfruitful fact that they are due to some unbearable stress and strain in the earth's crust we know really nothing about them, especially as text-book theories which gave beautifully-rounded explanations have of late been subjected to very damaging criticism—more particularly the classic idea of secular shrinkage on which Dr. See has succeeded in throwing so much doubt. In spite of all our progress, therefore, we are still as much as ever the victims of these cataclysms of nature, and the most that science can do is to give the obvious advice to quit the earthquake locality. The shocking loss of life in the present instance shows how little this advice has been regarded. Apparently the intensity and rapidity of the shocks left no opportunity for escape, and the great bulk of the populations of the doomed cities was simply overwhelmed as it stood. Messina is practically destroyed, and there is a strange pathos about that account of a naval officer looking for Reggio, and having to report that he could not find it. As the subsidence was essentially submarine, a huge tidal wave was a necessary accompaniment of the disturbance, and this added much to the horrors of the situation. If Professor Suess's view is correct much of the country around the Straits of Messina is destined to disappear beneath the sea; and by our accounts a considerable area has already done so. Sympathy in the case of a calamity of this magnitude becomes voiceless, but it is none the less world-wide, and whatever can be done to alleviate the terrible position of the survivors is, we may rest assured, being done with feverish energy. One is glad to notice the British navy, as usual, foremost in good work. While there is no doubt that there will be a liberal response to the appeal for aid, however, there is no reason why Australia should not show her sympathy in a practical way, and join with our Italian fellow-citizens in the effort to mitigate the appalling loss that has been sustained.

TROUBLES OF THE FARMER.

At this period of the year, when there is a certain relaxation of everyday effort in the city, the farmer is at his busiest. Especially is this true of the wheat-grower, who is now in the midst of the harvest. Harvesting under any circumstances is hard enough work, but harvesting in torrid midsummer in the wheatfields of the West is work that, while it lasts, makes a great demand upon the stamina of the men who engage in it. Any occupation which endows men with an appetite for five meals a day must be fairly strenuous, and men working hard in a wheatfield under a sun which keeps the glass well up in the hundreds have no difficulty in doing fine justice to five meals a day when they can get them. It is healthy enough work for the man who does not mind hard bodily exertion, and who has the necessary physical equipment for it; but it is not work for the lazy or the soft. In the circumstances it is scarcely surprising that the ranks of good harvesters rarely suffer from overcrowding. Even when the wheat crop was a comparative failure, and the demand for labour to take it off consequently light, we heard little of the supply being beyond the requirements. This season, when the harvest is of fair proportions, and the demand for farm labour brisk, reports are coming to hand from more than one district of the shortage of reasonably efficient hands. Notwithstanding the fact that a considerable number of immigrants have been sent into the country within the past year or so, the country districts have reached a stage of development when they can absorb a good deal more capable farm labour than they are receiving. If it be a fact that there is barely enough labour to lift a moderate crop of, say, 15,000,000 bushels, what would have been the position if the season had fulfilled its earlier promise and the harvest was returning between 25,000,000 and 30,000,000 bushels? Obviously we should have been in a very bad way. As farming supplants broad-acre grazing the country's demands upon the labour market must increase, and unless these demands are adequately met a brake is put upon expansion. This is an aspect of the general question of development which is not sufficiently realised. For instance, it was computed last year that the wheat area of Victoria could not safely undergo further extension to any appreciable degree until the labour army was augmented. In this State quite a number of landowners have within the past two years either reduced their areas under wheat or retired from wheat-growing altogether, because of the difficulty of getting labour enough at the right time and of the right kind to handle the crop. With them it has not been a question of rates of wages, but of getting men at even reasonably high rates of wages. This to-day stands as one of the farmer's troubles. But he has also the further trouble of shortage of trucks in which to get his wheat away. After all the forewarnings that have been given about the congestion that would arise when the harvest came to be garnered, it is regrettable that the trouble apprehended should now be experienced. Another trouble of the farmer of the wheat belt just now is the liability to destruction of his crop by fire—a very real and menacing trouble in the later districts. However, we may derive a certain consolation from the fact that the more prosperous the condition of the country the more intense these troubles are.

SYDNEY FIRE RISKS.

The report of the select committee on the risk of fire in Sydney deserves to be heartily commended. It is a sane and business-like summing up of a most important problem. Owing to the configuration of the city blocks, and the narrowness of the streets, Sydney is especially liable to loss from fire, more particularly when prevailing winds are taken into consideration, and it is therefore plain that we should take more than ordinary precautions against the devastating conflagration that may break out at any moment. As a matter of fact, the evidence before the committee showed clearly that we are at present taking less than ordinary precautions. We are provided with a fire brigade whose efficiency and courage are beyond praise, but though we must not relax a fraction of our care in this direction, we must not forget that when the moment to call in the fire brigade comes fire prevention methods stand a self-confessed failure. The committee puts its finger on this very point. It urges us to be wise before the event, instead of when it is too late. In one word, much more stringent regulations are required, both as to the structural arrangement of buildings and as to the use to which they are put. The recommendations made by the committee in this connection are pointed and full of sense. Large city blocks should be subdivided by fire walls. At present there is nothing to prevent a whole section of the city being destroyed once a great fire gets beyond control. Especially dangerous is the practice of leaving a common light well between buildings—a well lined with windows, either unprotected or provided with shutters that would probably fail in an emergency.

The danger of fire is further immensely increased by the absence of sufficient restriction on the storage of inflammable materials within the city. While this is admittedly not quite an easy question to deal with, the convenience of the few should not be permitted to involve the many in serious risk, and there is no hardship implied by our adopting the measures of self-preservation in this respect to which other cities have been compelled to resort. Another question of even more serious import, inasmuch as it includes danger to human life, is the provision of adequate exits from buildings where large numbers of employees are housed. Our shortcomings at present in this respect are notorious. While it would be no easy matter to define the meaning of the phrase "adequate exits," there is no doubt that existing means of escape are absolutely inadequate in a great number of buildings, and these would become mere death-traps to employees and others who happened to be in them when fire broke out. In the case of school buildings, which are usually isolated, the risks of fire are fortunately small, but special care should undoubtedly be taken with the architecture of large city schools, and they should be practically fire proof. Here, as with new buildings in general, a high standard is now being set up. In a good modern building the risks of fire are infinitesimal, provided that the contents are not inflammable. One great danger arises from the large number of old buildings in Sydney that no amount of care could make fire-proof; and this is a further incentive to city reconstruction. The select committee has done excellent service, and its suggestions should not be allowed to fall on deaf ears. The question of the appointment of a special fire board, however, requires careful consideration, for we are threatened with an overwhelming multiplicity of boards, and we may end in confusion.

Postal Affairs.—There has been an unprecedented rush of business in the post-offices of both New South Wales and Victoria during the holidays. Taking all things into consideration, the Postmaster-General (Mr. Thomas), in reviewing the year's work, is of opinion that the staff has put up a very creditable record, especially when the difficulties of the past two weeks are looked at. "There have been complaints," said Mr. Thomas yesterday to our representative in Melbourne, "but that we should have some is inevitable." One reached the Postmaster-General from Katoomba just as he was making the remark. It was a postcard stating that a telegram which should have been delivered on Saturday had not reached its destination until Monday. When he came to the signature he found it was from his daughter. Mr. Thomas is deep in his plan for the revision of telephone rates, which he is to bring forward at a later date. His idea of telephones, he sometimes says, is that they should be in everybody's home the same as gas and water taps. It is most likely, however, that this dream of perfect telephonic service will have to stand back for the present while the new scale is brought into operation.

Silver Coinage.—The question of whether silver coining should be done in Australia or be continued in England has not been carried any further since the new Ministry took office. Mr. Allen, Secretary of the Treasury, in a memorandum on the subject, states that, as far as he is aware, there is no reason why the Commonwealth should not assume the position with regard to the Imperial mints in Sydney, Melbourne, and Perth, which the States have hitherto held at these establishments. The gold is minted, the States finance them, and receive the profit, if any, or bear any loss. Mr. Allen adds, says our Melbourne correspondent, that the Imperial Government has not been asked to mint silver in Australia; also, should the Commonwealth decide to take over the financing of the mints from the States the minting of silver might be done here in time to come. The profit of about £40,000 accrues to Australia yearly under the present arrangement.

City Finances.—The city treasurer yesterday reported to the Lord Mayor, on balancing the books of the City Council for the financial year, the actual cash to carry forward was £7344, of which £4179 was carried forward from the estimates specially voted during the year, leaving an actual surplus at the close of the financial year of £3174.

The Year's Immigration.—By the Dorset, due to-morrow, another batch of immigrants will arrive, comprising 67 farm labourers and 12 domestics. This brings the total for the year up to 3940. Of this number, 2877 were assisted, and 1063 unassisted. The total for the previous year was 3501, and for 1906 it was 637.

Suez Canal Rates.—A despatch has been received by the Government, states our representative in Melbourne, respecting applications that were put forward for a reduction in the Suez Canal charges. It contains the decision of the company, made known some time ago, that there is no possibility at the present time, when steps have been taken to widen and deepen the canal, of any reduction being agreed to.

Post Office Windfall.—The sum of £17,500, recovered in the case against Sir James Laing and Sons over the cancelled mail contract, says our Melbourne correspondent, has now become available, and has been handed over to the Postal Department. The department has, therefore, a set-off against the £13,000 or £14,000 lost to the Eastern Extension Company in the case relating to the Bass Straits cable service.

Dowling-street Car Shed.—Consequent upon the growth of the city tramway system, and in order to minimise car mileage, it has been found necessary to erect an additional car house to accommodate cars running on the Botany, Zetland, Coogee, and La Perouse lines. This rolling stock is at present housed at Ultimo and Waverley, and will be withdrawn from these depots, in order to make room for the new cars to be used in the operation of the recently-constructed lines to Erskineville and Bellevue Hill. The new depot was located with the object of economic working from the lines it is intended to serve, and also with an eye to the probable extension of the tramway system in the immediate neighbourhood. With this purpose in view an area of 7¾ acres was acquired by the Commissioners in Dowling-street, at its intersection with Dacey-avenue.

Naturalisation for the Year.—The returns for the year 1908, telegraphed our Melbourne correspondent last night, give 1130 men and 111 women naturalised in Australia. The nationalities of the applicants were as follows:—Germans, including 3 Poles, 475; Swedes, 157; Italians, 152; Danes, 93; Russians, including 19 Poles and 18 Finns, 83; Norwegians, 65; Austrians, including 7 Hungarians and 1 Pole, 45; French, 39; Swiss, 36; Greeks, 33; North Americans, 25; Dutch, 14; Spaniards, 11; Turks, 10; Roumanians, 9; Belgians, 7; Portuguese, 3; Chinese, 2; Brazilians, 1; Bulgarians, 1; Montenegrins, 1. Total, 1241. These figures show an increase of 199 over the previous year. The distribution throughout the States was:—New South Wales, 397; Queensland, 377; Victoria, 242; Western Australia, 152; South Australia, 45; Tasmania, 28.

New Mail Steamers.—The Commonwealth representative in London (Captain Collins) is deputed to report upon the progress made with the construction of the new mail steamers by the Orient Company, under its contract with the Government. The latest report, which has just been received, is dated November 20. At that date, telegraphs our Melbourne correspondent, the Otway and Orsova were ready to receive their boilers and engines. Two of the others are being constructed at the yards of Workman, Clark, and Co., at Belfast, and one at the yards of the London and Glasgow Engineering and Shipbuilding Company, at Glasgow. Two of the hulls have been plated and riveted, and the decks are almost completed. One of the vessels is to be launched on January 21, and another in February. The fifth has been framed, and the plating was proceeding when Captain Collins made his inspection on November 6.

A Would-be Farmer.—By the last mail, Dr. Arthur, the president of the Immigration League of Australasia, received the following amusing, if somewhat pathetic, letter from a lad in Manchester:—"I was reading the "Favourite Boy's" paper when I saw a letter to lads who would like to go over the seas to Australia, and I said to myself I would like to go there, and I made up my mind to write, which I am now doing. I may tell you that I have a great longing for to get farming. I have about eight plants now in the house, and I look after them, too, and keep them well. Once I had a rose tree in our yard, and it grew lovely. My occupation at present is working night-work in the shipping office on the railroad. I have been working night-work for about 15 months now, without a single day-work, and I may tell you that it is not doing me any good. The reason is that we cannot eat our meals properly. I have some portraits of your country, and I may say it looks lovely. I was reading the evening paper the other day, when I saw one or two letters from boys and girls in your schools, and one girl said how lovely Manchester must be. She must think it is like a big forest, like they have there; but if she could come over and see the big mills and iron foundries, and the black smoke, and the River Irwell, she would be quite astonished, and be glad to go back. I must tell you now that I want you to know I am 19. I am a non-smoker of those dirty—and the ruination of lads—cigarettes. I have good teeth, and good internal organs, and now I ask you, with all my heart, if I may come. I have some old clothes, as you mention in the paper. By the time you receive this letter it may be Christmas, so I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Hoping to hear from you by the first mail."

To-day workmen's fares will be cancelled on all tramway lines, and the Bondi Junction service, via Pitt and Castlereagh streets, will be cancelled. Improved services will be run on Abbotsford, Bondi, Coogee, Watson's Bay, and North Sydney lines. A 12 minutes' service will be run on the La Perouse line from Circular Quay and western railway gates. A special service will be run to the Highland gathering and cricket match, commencing at 9.30 a.m. from Circular Quay and railway gates, and to the racecourse, commencing at 10.10 a.m. The first-class tram will not run.

An extensive loan collection from the Education Department of the London County Council has just been placed in the Technological Museum, Harrisstreet. The exhibits were on view at the Women's Work Exhibition in Melbourne last year. The collection has been offered on loan to New South Wales by the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth, and the offer has been accepted by the Minister for Education. The exhibits comprise work done by the London school children, and include dressed dolls, needlework, laundrywork, millinery, art work, art needlework, albums, and portfolios containing time tables, illustrated schemes of instruction, classed worked exercises and photographs.

The A.M.P. Society, of the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company, each forward us a set of calendars for 1909. We have also received a copy of "The Singer Almanac of Australasia."

"Internationalism," by Dr. Wilbur F. Crafts, is a little book containing admirable sentiment and idle speculation. Internationalism, pompously expressed, "the highest branch of this highest science," Dr. Crafts says, "is the science of God and of man's relations to God. But next to that is the highest branch of the science of man, which deals with man in his widest relation, the hitherto unclassified science of international sin." Dr. Crafts hopes to make this "highest science" a university subject, and to popularise it by having its various aspects discussed by debating societies.

We have received cards of Christmas and New Year greeting from the committee of the Sydney Industrial Blind Institution, Hoddart, Parker, and Co.'s Sydney staff, the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners and staff, the "Examiner" and "Weekly Courier," Tasmania, the "North Coast Daily News," the British Residents' Tonga, Gordon and Gotch, Sydney, the Commissioners and officers of the New South Wales Railways and Tramways, the South African Customs Statistical Bureau, Capetown, Major Wynne, and officers of the 1st N.S.W. Battalion, Commonwealth Military Senior Cadet Corps, the officers of the Tramway Department, the companionship of Messrs. Puerta, Hall, Hall, Major Alderman, and officers of 2nd Battalion Senior Cadets, George B. Smith (Australian Alliance Assurance Company), Alderman Lonsdale (Newport), Alderman Smith, and officers of Leichhardt Council, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen and staff of City Council, and others.

A SPLASH IN THE DARK.

CENTENNIAL PARK ADVENTURE.

One of the artificial lakes in the Centennial Park on Tuesday night was the scene of a rather sensational immersion, coupled with a timely rescue.

Ranger Thompson whilst on his beat heard a splash, followed by a scream, in the direction of one of the lakes on the Waverley side of the park, at about 10.30 o'clock. Hastening towards the sounds Thompson discovered that a cab containing a lady and a gentleman had rolled down the embankment into the lake, which is fairly deep. The ranger lost no time in entering the water, and wading as far as possible managed to land the cab's occupants by means of a long whip, by which they were drawn ashore. Thompson then swam to the assistance of the driver, who was in severe straits from exhaustion and clinging to the rear of the vehicle. After some considerable trouble, and with the aid of another man, Thompson also landed the driver. The next business was to save the horse and cab, the former being liberated after a good deal of difficulty. With the aid of blocks and tackle the cab was finally dragged out, but not until 4.30 the next morning.

VICTORIAN POLITICAL SITUATION.

SIR THOMAS BENT'S INTENTIONS.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The most important development involved in the political situation to-day was the ratification of the Cabinet of Sir Thomas Bent's decision to place his position as Premier in the hands of the anti-socialist party. The Cabinet decided to issue invitations to all but four anti-socialists. This means that 40 members will be asked to attend a meeting to be held on Tuesday next. The Cabinet's invitation states that the object of the meeting is to select a new leader of the party.

A DOMESTIC QUARREL.

CHARGE OF UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

The police at Ingham reported to the Commissioner that Ernest Pace, a painter, quarrelled with his family yesterday evening, followed them to a neighbour's house with a shot gun, and shot the occupier, John Sullivan, several pellets entering his face. The wound is not dangerous. On the police arriving Pace armed himself with a gun. He kept the police covered, and threatened to shoot them, meanwhile taking up a position on his verandah. After persuasion he was arrested and charged with unlawfully wounding.

TO-DAY.

Tattersall's Club Races: First Race, 12.30.
Salvation Army Excursion: Pearl Bay.
Hawkesbury Trip: Newcastle and H. R. Wharf, 10.
Newbery Spada Concert: Exhibition Building, 8.
Highland Gathering: Agricultural Ground, 10.
Highland Society Concert: Town Hall, 8.
Billiards, Lindrum v Gray: Queen's Hall, 3 and 8.
Her Majesty's "The Merry Widow," 2 and 7.45.
Theatre Royal: "The Sign of the Cross," 8.
Tivoli Theatre: Vaudeville, 2.30 and 7.30.
Criterion Theatre: "The Dayset of the Gay," 2 and 8.
Palace Theatre: "Robinson Crusoe," 2; "The Woman Pays," 7.50.
National Amphitheatre: Vaudeville, 2.30 and 7.30.
Lyceum Hall: Spencer's Theatrescope, 2.30 and 7.30.
Clay's Vaudeville: Standard Theatre, 8.
Zoological Gardens, 10.
Victoria Hall: American Theatrescope, 2.30 and 8.
Bijou Theatre: Moving Picture Palace, 2.30 and 8.
Glacarium: Coogee, 10.
Figure Eight: Coogee, 10.
Wonderland City: Bondi, 10.
Queen's Hall: Moving Pictures, 2.30 and 8.
Stadium: Burns v Johnson Moving Pictures, 8.15.

PERSONAL.

VICE-REGAL.

Lady Honor Ward has made uninterrupted progress since the operation for appendicitis performed on her on Monday last. The Govern

ITALIAN CATASTROPHE.

ENORMOUS DEATH-ROLL INCREASED.

SOME WONDERFUL RESCUES.

STARVATION AMONG THE SURVIVORS.

ALARM FROM FURTHER SHOCKS.

Latest reports of the death roll from the earthquake in Calabria and Sicily show that the estimate of 120,000 will be exceeded

The railway which runs along the South Coast of Italy from Lazzaro to Marina. has been entirely swallowed up.

Many of those who remain among the ruins of the devastated cities are suffering from starvation.

Stories of some remarkable escapes are given... Rescues are still attended with great danger.

People overwhelmed by falling buildings are yet alive. Help for the afflicted districts is hurrying from all quarters.

RUINED CITIES AFIRE.

WORK OF RESCUE SLOW.

STARVATION AND THIRST.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

Reuter's correspondent reports that the latest estimates are that 100,700 people perished in Messina. Included among the dead are all the prominent citizens.

A member of the Chamber of Deputies telegraphs that many people are starving at Messina and Reggio, owing to the difficulty of approach by sea and land. Numbers are still pinned beneath the ruins, groaning piteously.

At Santa Eufemia, on the northern shore of the gulf of the same name, there are 2500 dead.

Fires have broken out afresh at Messina. There is great scarcity of water, owing to the destruction of the aqueduct. Vast heaps of wreckage which cumber the ground render the work of rescue slow.

Two-thirds of the garrison of the city is missing.

The American Consulate collapsed. It is feared that the Consul and his wife were killed.

Hundreds of people who were injured at Messina have been brought to Naples.

The survivors describe Messina as a gigantic dustheap. Only a few thousands escaped.

A train from Palermo was unable to come within ten miles of Messina. All buildings and bridges beyond were broken.

Out of 100 post-office employees only six were saved.

CALABRIA CALAMITY.

DISAPPEARANCE OF REGGIO.

A RAILWAY SWALLOWED UP.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

A naval officer who left Messina for Reggio telegraphed: "Cannot find Reggio; it it exists, it is no longer where it was."

There are 1000 dead at Bagnara, 26 miles north of Reggio.

Dec. 31.

The few refugees who have escaped from Reggio on the mainland opposite Messina report that the greater part of the city is in ruins. Most of the public buildings, including the barracks, have fallen.

Hundreds of troops were killed.

The dead in Reggio number at least 18,000.

The damage on the west coastline from Monteleone to Reggio is slight.

The Prefect reports that the centre of Reggio has settled down to sea-level, and that only villas situated on the highest points remain.

Most of the pupils of the Lyceum perished, also the Bishop of Reggio.

The earth opened and swallowed the railway between Lazzaro and Marina, on the extreme southern coast of Italy.

DRAMATIC ESCAPES.

FLIGHT FROM THE DOOMED CITY.

An English sailor, with a rope, rescued 20 persons from the fifth story of a house in Messina, which then fell, severely injuring the rescuer.

Thirty people were suffocated at the Trinacria Hotel, Messina, while attempting to escape. Some were suspended by their feet from the window bars.

Most of the members of an operatic company escaped from Messina, owing to the leading soprano throwing mattresses out of the window, and jumping on to them from the third floor, the rest following her.

Mr. Ogston, the British Consul, who escaped from Messina, related that he and his wife, who carried their little daughter, escaped from the Consulate through a window. A balcony fell into the street, killing his wife. Mr. Ogston seized the child, which was not injured, and joined 50 others, fleeing into the country. Falling balconies, columns, and chimneys killed half a dozen at a time, so that ultimately only four reached the open country.

The Consul was injured.

KING DIRECTS RESCUES.

BRITISH SAILORS PARTICIPATE.

King Victor Emmanuel is helping to direct the rescue work at Messina. Queen Elena is visiting the injured aboard the ships in the harbour. Her Majesty rescued a child from the ruins.

H.M.S. Drake rescued 250, and the crew of a British merchantman rescued many from burning houses.

THE RELIEF FUNDS.

THOUSANDS CONTRIBUTED.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

The public of New York has subscribed £4000 towards the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake in Southern Italy and Sicily, and the Italian Colony has cabled £2000.

H.M.S. Exmouth, which is at Malta, will convey tents, mattresses, blankets, and beef to Messina.

The military warehouses in Rome have been emptied of clothing, blankets, and provisions, which have been sent to Sicily.

Dec. 31.

The Barings and Lord Rothschild have each subscribed £1000 to the Mansion House Fund.

King Victor Emmanuel declared that the prompt response of Great Britain to the call for relief shows the close brotherhood of the two nations.

Hundreds of doctors and nurses are hurrying to the spot.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has contributed £2000 towards the Italian relief fund.

SHOCKS AT SEA.

STEAMER WITNESSES MESSINA BURNING.

Early on Monday morning, when 30 miles from Messina, the passengers of the Messageries Maritimes' steamer Orenoque felt several shocks, and rushed on deck fearing that there had been a collision. When approaching Messina they saw that the city was in flames, that most of it had been destroyed, and that over 300 vessels were adrift.

TREASURE RECOVERED.

FIND OF RUSSIAN SAILORS.

It is reported at Naples that sailors of the Russian warship Makaroff discovered in the ruins of Messina 20,000,000 francs (£800,000), supposed to belong to the ruined branch of the Bank of Italy.

Sailors took the treasure to the commander of the ship.

FRANTIC SEARCHERS.

STEAMERS REFUSE PASSAGES.

People are frantic to go in search of their relatives in Sicily.

Captains of steamers are refusing £50 for a passage from Naples to Sicilian ports.

FURTHER SHOCKS.

FROM PALERMO TO NORTH CALABRIA.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

A serious earthquake shock occurred on Monday evening at Palermo, Sicily.

Dec. 31.

There was a further shock at Palermo, the capital of Sicily, but it was slight.

At San Marco, in the province of Calabria, 20 miles N.N.W. of Cosenza, and at Argentino, the shock was violent, and was accompanied by prolonged subterranean thunder. Considerable damage was done.

DANGERS TO NAVIGATION.

Lloyd's has asked the Admiralty to warn merchantmen if the earthquake has caused new risks to navigation in the vicinity of the Straits of Messina.

MOOLTAN PASSES THROUGH STRAITS.

The R.M.S. Mooltan, from London December 18, for Australia, cleared the Straits of Messina 21 hours before the disaster.

THE EARTHQUAKE EXPLAINED.

COLLAPSE OF THE GLOBE.

SHRINKAGE OF SICILY.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

Professor Suess, a celebrated Austrian geologist, states that the theatre of the catastrophe is a spot where the earth is sinking in a disc-like form. When the sinking process is complete, the hills of Scylla, and in Sicily the Peloritan Range near Messina, will be below water, the Straits of Messina will be widened, and only a fragment of the Eastern Sicilian hills will project from the sea.

Professor Suess adds: "We are witnessing a collapse of the terrestrial globe that began long ago. The shortness of human life allows us to be of good cheer."

SHOCK IN RUSSIA.

A shock at Ekaterinburg, Southern Russia, was felt, which coincided with the earthquake at Messina.

THE RUINED COAST.

AN EXQUISITE COUNTRY.

MOST BEAUTIFUL TRAIN RIDE.

"It is the most beautiful ride in the world," said Professor Blunno, the Government Viticulturist, yesterday. "The railway runs all along the coast which has been devastated by this earthquake. On the steep Italian side it runs around the cliffs and promontories overlooking the sea until it reaches the point opposite Sicily, where the two countries close in, and the strait becomes narrowest. There, at Villa San Giovanni, you may get out, and take the ferry to Messina—three miles, I think—and get into the train again and run along the most wonderful coast in Europe. That ride, I think, beats the Riviera. The train winds up from Messina around the outer curves of the hills, with the sea always in view, and the most exquisite perfect curves of the bays beneath you as far as Taormina.

TAORMINA.

"Taormina is 36 miles lower down the coast than Messina. It is a Greek city—they are all that—crowded with Greek remains. And it is the most lovely place of all. Away to the south of you is Etna. Away to the north—in the direction from which you have come—is the long ridge of the Madonnie Hills. And there, below you, lies the sea and the most magnificent view of the entrance to the straits which can be got. Taormina has become a great health resort, a rival—more than a rival, I think—to the towns of the Riviera. Up on the hills, 900ft above the sea, they have built a number of splendid hotels.

RIPOSTO.

"Riposto, which the cables speak of as swept by the tidal wave from Messena, is a town still further down the coast, just underneath Etna. From there runs a loop of railway inland, and like a necklace around the mountain. It was built mostly, I think, to give tourists the view of the mountain. It runs along the side of Etna, 2000 or 3000 feet up—right round and back again. It starts at Giarre, a little out of Riposto, and runs all the way through trenches cut in the lava. The oldest lava has been reduced to soil by this time; it has been terraced up, and vines and citrus trees grow from it. The Madonnie Hills form an immense amphitheatre on one side, and Etna and the whole of them are covered with vineyards and orange and lemon groves. But a dreadful damage has been done there by microscopic insects. Whole vineyards have disappeared, and vines been reduced to a few short twigs. The scenery is even more depressing, for that reason, than the wild desolation higher up, where you come upon the more recent lava like huge inky waves suddenly petrified, with whirls and pools and splashes still keeping their sharp edges and points as if the liquid fire had suddenly frozen. The summit of the Etna above wears its eternal snow cap, sharply marked against the blue sky; and a thin column of smoke waves from the crater, and is carried away by the breeze. That is the mountain sleeping. When he becomes angry for a few hours he sows death by destroying both work and workers. But this destruction, though sudden and terrific, is less disastrous than that accomplished by a small, mean, insidious insect, which in a thousand days effaced the work of generations. People were rendered destitute by the loss, and actually had to leave the country.

MESSINA.

"Messina and Reggio being gone, two very renowned land marks of the earth's beauty have disappeared. Messina and Catania are the capital of the seven divisions of Sicily that have suffered in this disaster, for I don't suppose it reached Syracuse. Messina is a most prosperous town, with a very good system of land tenure. And that accounts for its being a shining example to the rest of Sicily in one way. There is a minimum of crime there—not only for Sicily, where crime is high, but for the most part of Italy. The wealth and the land are well distributed there.

THE SYDNEY FRUIT VENDORS.

"The Italian fruiterers whom you have here in Sydney come from some small islands near Messina. I don't know why that should be so. It is curious that the Liparoti should run the fruit business in Sydney. But so it is. The Lipari Islands are a dependency of the province of Messina.

"They are a country-loving people, the Messinians, and many of them farmers. They do not crowd into the cities, but live in little villages. Even the large land owners live in villas out on the hills most months in the year."

REGGIO.

"Reggio is a very clean, beautifully-situated town—a great health resort, too. Its exports are pretty well the same as those of all these cities—lemons, lemon essence, oranges, wine, grapes, currants, silk, flax, olives. Fish is canned in Messina, and sulphur is exported from Catania."

THE PEOPLE.

HONOURABLE, BUT QUICK-TEMPERED.

POOR, BUT NEVER DESTITUTE.

The Calabrians are mountaineers," said Professor Blunno yesterday. "They are a race of gentlemen, with an exaggerated sense of honour, and therefore perhaps more given to crimes of violence than most. They cannot laugh away an offence, and it is necessary to be careful how you speak to them. I know what I speak of, for I have often had them working under me. They are strong and quick to anger, but a splendid trustworthy race if you treat them properly. They are a most whole-heartedly hospitable race.

"The Calabrian men dress in black corduroy trousers and a light shirt, and fine built men they look. The women wear black skirts and lighter-coloured blouses. The married ones have a shawl over their heads, and the unmarried girls a scarf. The men are finer to look at than the women.

"These people are the very least able to bear such a disaster as this, because they are the poorest of all Italians except the Sardinians. They have a wretched system of land tenure there. The land is nearly all held in enormous estates. The great owners do not live on the spot. They enjoy themselves elsewhere, and leave stewards to screw every penny they can out of the people. These tenants do what they can growing olives, vines, lemons, oranges. Bergamot essence comes all from the Calabrian coast; also a deal of lemon essence. But because the people are poor, and because of the last earthquake, the emigration from there is very large—larger than anywhere else in Italy. The tide of it was just beginning to ebb owing to the monetary crisis in America. The figures show that more people came back to Italy this year than left it—about twice as many. Most of those would be coming back to Calabria. And this is the disaster that has met them on their return.

"It is extraordinary to go through one of their villages, and see side by side the poorer folk who have never left the country; and the richer ones who have been to America, saved a little sum, and come back to live on it. Great numbers of them do that, and you see them living comfortably. Not that the poorest there are destitute. Though they are the poorest in Italy, there are no destitute people in Calabria.

"SAINT EARTHQUAKE."

"The Calabrese have a sort of appalling fear of the earthquake. They live in it from their birth. They have come to consider it a sort of being. And they have promoted it to the rank of sanctity. As you say, 'By jove,' they say 'Santu Terremotu!' Saint Earthquake!' I think that St. Nicholas is the one who protects them against earthquakes in those parts."

ALL GREEK CITIES.

2500 YEARS OLD.

HOW MESSINA WAS FOUNDED.

A ROMANTIC STORY.

Messina, Taormina, Catania, Reggio—these became the names of the great trading cities which the Greeks planted along the shore of Sicily and Italy when they colonised it 2500 years ago, almost exactly as the British colonised Fiji or South Africa in the last century.

The most delightful story of it all is told by Marion Crawford.

"A certain Theocles, an Athenian, traded with Italy in the eighth century before Christ," he says, "and no doubt had been as far as Camai (near Naples), where the Greeks had settled. But neither he nor any other Greeks had landed in Sicily, for the Sicelians had a bad name in the south, and it was said that they devoured human flesh and destroyed everyone who tried to land upon their shores; and it is most likely that the Phoenicians who traded with them spread this tale through the East to frighten off other trading folk.

"But Theocles, the merchant, with his little fleet of vessels, was sailing near the Straits one summer day. Men rarely put to sea in one ship alone for any distant voyage," says Marion Crawford. "They sailed out in little fleets of ten or even twenty sail, well knowing that some should not come home, and trusting in the number of their vessels to save some of their companions from death by drowning. . . . Men did not travel for pleasure in those days. . . . Theocles was sailing with his little fleet near the Straits, hugging the Italian shore, when the northeast wind came upon him, suddenly and violently, as it does in those waters, and he could not beat up against it to an anchorage under the land, but was obliged to run before it, towards Sicily; for it was wiser to take the risk of being eaten by the Sicelians than to face certain drowning in vessels that would not lie to in a gale. So he wore his ships to the wind under such sail as he dared carry, and ran for the opposite land with a heavy sea following.

"The wind was north-east and Sicily a lee shore. He knew that his chance of safety lay in running under the only little headland that juts out from that part of the coast, and he succeeded in making the shelter in time, before the wind shifted to the eastward. The sea broke over him just as he rounded the point, but its force drove him on and into smooth water, where he came to and let go both anchors. One by one his companions followed him and anchored alongside, and the first Greeks proceeded to land, where they afterwards built Naxos and Tauromenium."

That is the story. From the Australian mail steamers, as you come from England through the Straits, away to the right beyond the low line of yellow and pink houses, the masts of the shipping, and the wrecks on the beach, which was Messina, you may catch a bundle of white houses on a promontory well this side of Mount Etna. That white cluster was a city that had only changed from Tauromenium to Taormina in the course of 25 centuries.

"The position of the Greeks was like that which was held for a long time by the East India Company in India," Marion Crawford says. " . . . . . Instead of cannibals rushing down from the hills to kill them for food, the Greeks found a peaceable farmer folk, well satisfied with themselves and others, who sauntered down to the shore and eyed the weatherbound strangers with benevolent curiosity. They understood at once that the ships were not of Phoenician build, and they could see before they descended to the shore that the newcomers were neither pirates nor soldiers, but peaceable merchants, driven in from the sea for shelter. It is easy to fancy the distrust of Theocles and his companions, and the simple plan they followed; how they allured the Sicelians by holding up specimens of merchandise, coloured stuffs, glass beads, and bits of tinsel ware that caught the eye, just as English sailors made friends of the South Sea Islanders 2000 years later." Indeed, the story reads like nothing so much as the early ventures of white men into the Pacific.

It was the Greeks who were being pressed out of Asia Minor by the Asiatics that came across the seas when they heard of the rich new country that Theocles had found so friendly. They built trading cities. Some Messenians from Greece itself built a town near the water, on the Italian side, which they called Rhegium. Over opposite there was a low spit of land under the hills, running out in the form of a sickle, and making the best harbour of those parts. The Sicelians—the natives—had a town there, and the Greeks called it Zancle, the "Sickle," at first. Later, still hundreds of years B.C., some of the Messenians from Rhegium crossed the straits, settled behind the sickle, and called it Messene. Other Greeks founded towns, which they called Catane, Syracuse, Tarentum, Crotona, Neapolis, and many others. The names of the towns in those parts are Messina, Catania, Syracuse, Tarentp, Cotrone, Naples to-day.

These old cities have always been prosperous, because they were founded for trading cities in trading places. But the height of their prosperity was probably hundreds of years before Christ. The people that lived in them then were far better educated than the people living there now—possibly more civilised than the people of any modern city.

One quotation from Marion Crawford gives some idea of it. Crotona and Sybaris were two cities founded by the Achaeans. Crotona still exists. Sybaris does not, because Crotona 2148 years ago wiped it from the map. "The place where Sybaris stood," says Marion Crawford, "among gardens of roses and groves of fruit trees, is a desolate plain, where not one hewn stone is to be seen above the storm-ploughed soil. There the soft Sybarites made it unlawful to rear a crowing cock in the city, or for braziers, smiths, and carpenters to work at their trades, lest any harsh sound should grate upon their delicate hearing; there the idle reared witty dwarfs to jest for them, and bred little Maltese dogs with silky hair, and the people lived in luxuries beyond imagination, till Milo and the stern men of Crotona came and turned the waters of the river upon their city, and swept it utterly away. The winter floods roar down the river-bed where Sybaris was . . . ."

Municipal regulations against crowing cocks and noisy trades were not bad for 2400 years ago. And yet, all that is left of that particular civilisation is the name—"Sybarite."

CALABRIA AND SICILY.

TOLD IN STATISTICS.

"When you hear that the three provinces of Calabria are all in ruins," said Professor Blunno, "the provinces referred to are the three of the 69 divisions into which Italy, Sicily, and Sardinia are divided, which happen to lie in Calabria. Calabria has three provinces—the province of Reggio (which has Gerace and Palma in it), the province of Catanzaro (which has Monteleone, Cotrone, and Nicastro in it, and where the earthquake originated), and the province of Cosenza (which has Castrovillari in it, and Rossano and Paola). Those three were all affected.

"In Sicily only two of the seven provinces seem to have suffered—Catania and Messina.

"You can get as good an idea as possible of the nature of the country ruined from the following figures:—

POPULATION IN 1901.

"Calabria: 1,132,887. There were about 100 people a square kilometre—that is about 170 a square mile. They lived in 409 municipalities, 926 villages and suburbs, and 237,321 were out on the land.

"Sicily: 3,150,161. Density, 137 a square kilometre. (Liguria, with the highest density in Italy, has 264 a square kilometre. It is also the most prosperous.) They lived in 357 towns, 859 villages, etc.; and 979,638 lived on the land.

PEOPLE ON THE LAND.

"In Calabria, 91 people per 1000 own land without buildings, 114 own buildings only, and 129 own land and house. That looks not a bad average. But it must be explained that often the land which is owned is not much more than a few square yards.

"In Sicily, 94 people per 1000 own land, 119 own buildings, and 147 own both.

WEALTH.

"In Calabria the average capital worth per head is £47 10s. Only Sardinia is poorer. In Sicily they have £64 2s. In Liguria (the district from Genoa to San Remo) the richest province, they have £148 12s. In New South Wales you have, I think, over twice as much. But for a crowded country only a sixth the size of yours, with a population of 35,000,000, £148 is a very high average."

NUMBERS WORKING SOIL.

"In Calabria, out of every 1000 males, 129 work their own land, 47 work as tenants, 111 work on the halves system. The system of work generally is wretched to the worker.

"In Sicily 147 work their own land, 38 work as tenants, 83 work on halves.

"In Piemont—for comparison—556 per 1000 own their land and work it; 62 are tenants, and 66 go on halves.

MORTALITY.

"In Calabria: 23 per 1000.
"In Sicily: 21 per 1000.
"In Liguria (healthiest district, for comparison), 19 per 1000.

STATURE OF MEN AT 20.

"In Calabria: 5ft 5 1-5in high, 34 1-3in chest.
"In Sicily: 5ft 5½in high, 34½in chest.
"In Liguria (for comparison): 5ft 6 1-5in high, 35in chest.

EMIGRATION.

"The emigration in Calabria has been growing by leaps and bounds since 1876. From 1903 to 1906 2149 per 100,000 people left the district. Between 1876 and 1878 only 116 per 100,000 left.

"In Sicily, in the period 1876 to 1878, only 27 per 100,000 emigrated; in 1903 to 1905, 1922 per 100,000 emigrated. Even in 1905 the emigration from Calabria topped the list. Since then, until last year, it increased.

ENORMOUS EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.

"From the whole of Italy in 1907 the emigration figures were:—
"Total emigrants, 194,000.
"Portion going to U.S.A.: 164,000.
"Portion going to Argentine: 25,000.
"Portion going to Brazil: 5000.
"The total returning in 1907 was 50,000.
"Returning from U.S.A.: 30,000.
"From Argentina: 21,000.
"From Brazil: 9000.

TIDE EBBS IN 1908.

"In 1908, after the monetary crisis in America, the figures were (for the first five months):—
"Total emigrating from Italy: 54,000.
"Going to U.S.A.: 30,000.
"Going to Argentine: 20,000.
"Going to Brazil: 4000.
"Total returning to Italy: 116,000.
"From U.S.A.: 91,000.
"From Argentine: 19,000.
"From Brazil: 5000.
"Altogether about 120,000 more than the average returned during 1906.

CALABRIAN CELEBRITIES.

The Calabrians are great lawyers, orators, and patriots. Nicotera, the Garibaldian general, and afterwards Minister for the Interior, and Chimirri, the great lawyer and Minister for Justice, were Calabrians. The latter is still alive. Tomasso Campanella, the old philosopher, was also a Calabrian."

AN ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE.

A REMINISCENCE.

"I only remember one shock," said Professor Blunno, the Government Viticulturist. "It took place when I was a child. It was most startling. At the same time as the tremor I can remember that there came to us the sound as of many railway trains running.

"When an earthquake comes there is nothing for it but to run out into the country or the big squares. You see the people congregating in any open place. The streets are not safe. When a house falls it falls all at once, and there is no telling how it will fall.

"The people have been emigrating to America from the country where these earthquakes have been taking place. But even so, many are content to stay. The Italians are a patient people; and they feel that if a thing will come—it will come. On Stromboli, which is an island, consisting entirely of one active volcano, they live because they are used to it. They are fishermen there."

AUSTRALIAN FUNDS.

Dr. Marano, Consul-General for Italy, said yesterday that subscriptions to the fund in aid of those in distress in Italy and Sicily were coming in satisfactorily. He was hourly receiving telegrams expressing the sympathy of Australians with the Italian people.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The Lord Mayor is appealing for subscriptions to the public for a relief fund. The Italian consular agents in Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand have received telegraphic instructions from the acting Consul-General for Italy in Melbourne (Mr. M. P. Maistre) to open public subscriptions for the survivors of the earthquakes, and to forward to the central office in Melbourne the funds thus collected. It is desired that the subscription lists should be closed within a fortnight, so as to ensure as quick a distribution as possible among the surviving victims of the catastrophe.

Gratifying official and public testimonies of the deep sympathy with the Italian nation in its distress received by Mr. M. Maistre have been telegraphed to Rome.

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Mr. Fisher has sent a message of sympathy to the Acting Italian Consul in Melbourne in connection with the disastrous earthquakes in Sicily and Southern Italy.

The Premier, Sir Thomas Bent, sent the following message to the Acting Consul-General for Italy, Mr. P. Maistre:—"The Government and people of Victoria sympathise with the sufferers from the terrible earthquake in Sicily and South Italy."

BRISBANE, Thursday.

The representative of the Consular body called on the Italian Consular Agent, and expressed the deepest sympathy with the sufferers in the earthquake.

WELLINGTON (N.Z.), Thursday.

Sir Joseph Ward has cabled to Italy New Zealand's sympathy with them in the disaster.

RECORDS IN MELBOURNE.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The Government Astronomer (Mr. Baracchi) opened the seismograph to-day. Mr. Baracchi explained that the record on the seismograph was smaller than that of the San Francisco earthquake. "The amplitude is much less," he said, "but I cannot say whether this is due to a smaller disturbance or to various other causes. Mr. Baracchi's notes as to the duration of the shocks are as follows:—Melbourne time, a.m., disturbance commences 2.54, Italian time 5.5 a.m.; time of severest shock, 2.41 to 3.46 (probably consisting of two or more shocks), Melbourne, Italian time 6.41 to 6.46; time of next severe shock, Melbourne time 3.49, Italian time 6.49. Time of next severe shock, Melbourne time 3.52, Italian time 6.52, followed by eight minor shocks from, Melbourne time 4.5 to 4.21, Italian time 7.5 to 7.21.

PRESSURE ON PERSIA.

BY BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

Great Britain and Russia intend to use the strongest pressure to compel the Shah to accept a definite programme of financial and administrative reforms.

There has been so much backing and filling by the Shah as to his intention to convene his Parliament and reform the administration of his kingdom that it is no wonder the controlling Powers, Great Britain and Russia, are tired of remonstrances. But before pressure can be effective the Shah must be convinced that Russia is sincere in her concert with Britain, that what the Foreign Office directs the officers on the spot will perform, that the Russian military officer in charge of the Persian bodyguard will not try to obtain kudos for his country by encouraging the Shah to defy the combined representations of the Powers. On November 23 the Shah announced his intention of being false to his oath to summon a Parliament in the following proclamation:—

"Having promised to summon a Parliament on November 14 we were prepared to redeem our word, but learning from the assembled representatives of our people that they did not want a Constitution, a fact which they stated in writing, and being supplicated by the whole people not to convoke a Parliament, we have decided to defer to their wishes."

The proclamation proceeds:—"To the clergy.—As you have recognised that the establishment of a Parliament would conflict with the laws of Islam, and all the ecclesiastics have declared so telegraphically or in writing, we therefore desist from such plan, and in future under no pretext shall such a Parliament be established. Nevertheless, in the interests of justice, we have given necessary instructions for the maintenance of justice. We summon the ecclesiastics to communicate to the whole people this our resolve to protect the rights of our subjects and to frustrate the wicked designs of evil-doers, in accordance with the religious law."

The allusion to the maintenance of justice apparently refers to a long-standing scheme for a code of laws.

The day following orders were issued from Baghdahab, the residence of the Shah, for the withdrawal from circulation and the destruction of all copies of the proclamation. This decision was taken in consequence of the representation of the British and Russian Legations, which protested vigorously against the publication of the rescript. Some persons were arrested for saying that the Shah had broken his oath to observe the Constitution.

BLIZZARD IN BRITAIN.

DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE.

DIGGING OUT TRAINS.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

Twenty-four degrees of frost have been recorded in Essex.

There were scores of deaths from exposure in England and France.

Dec. 31.

The Scottish express was snowed in at Drumlithie, Kincardineshire, and was not dug out till men had been at work 28 hours. Other trains were rescued though with less difficulty.

Coal in London has risen by 4s a ton, owing to the delay to traffic.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

COOLNESS WITH PRINCE BULOW.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

The Berlin correspondent of the Paris "Matin" states that there is marked coolness between the German Emperor and Prince Bulow.

Interviews between them are of rare occurrence, and those which do take place are restricted to politics.

The Emperor did not send Prince Bulow his usual Christmas gift.

IMMIGRANTS FOR QUEENSLAND.

INDENTURED STATION HANDS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

Three hundred assisted emigrants started for Queensland in December, including 45 indentured station hands. All have been selected from Scottish farms.

ALLEGED PROFESSIONALISM.

NEW YORK A.A. UNION.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

The New York Amateur Athletic Union has suspended several members for alleged professionalism, including Shepphard, Bacon, and Porter, winners of events at the Olympic Games in London.

CLYDE SHIPBUILDING.

GREAT SHRINKAGE.

LONDON, Dec. 30.

Shipbuilding on the Clyde during 1908 showed the greatest shrinkage for 23 years.

ALLIANCE WITH CHINA.

UNITED STATES DECLINES.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

The special mission of Tang-shao-yi to Washington to induce the United States to form a practical alliance with China has failed.

A SHIPMENT OF GOLD.

CHINESE HEAVILY FINED.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The District Court to-day dealt with summonses served on two Chinese, Mee Shing, storekeeper, and Aek Goon, for alleged offences against section 38 of the Gold Buyers' Act, 1907, in that a box of gold had been shipped to China in a box declared to contain 750 sovs, which, in fact, contained 600 sovs and 150ozs of retorted gold. Defendants were each fined £50, with £13 13s costs against Mee Shing.

THE BOXING CONTEST.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

A CABLE FROM BURNS.

RIDICULED IN LONDON.

LONDON, Dec. 31.

T. Burns cables to the "Sporting Life" that Johnson's seconds influenced police intervention. He (Burns) was strong, and always had a chance, as Johnson was tiring. Burns says that he is willing again to fight Johnson.

The "Sportsman" writes that the challenge of Burns is considered a joke, and that his charge against Johnson's seconds is childish, mean, contemptible, and quite unfounded.

BURNS' EXPLANATION.

Mr. Tommy Burns was interviewed, in company with Mr. M'Intosh, at the Australia Hotel last night.

Mr. Burns admitted to the sending of the cable to "Sporting Life." He said what he cabled was perfectly correct, and he was prepared to stand by it. The boot was on the other leg so far as the criticism of the "Sportsman" was concerned. The writer, who had pursued him with remorseless and unfair criticism during the whole of his career, well knew that the challenge to Johnson was no joke. The "Sportsman's" criticism it could be called—was, with a vengeance, "childish, mean, and contemptible." Ever since he had beaten Moir, whom the "Sportsman" was backing, adverse and childish criticism had been directed against him.

In justification of the cable he had sent, Burns said that when his face commenced to swell Johnson's seconds ejaculated, loud enough for thousands of people to hear, "His jaw is broken." At that time he was fighting hard and feeling fit. The police heard those observations of Johnson's seconds, and doubtless influenced a decision to stop the fight. Johnson's blows were not knock-out blows, and he felt sure that he (Burns) would not have been worn out by them. When Johnson tired a bit was his chance. Johnson doubtless was commencing to tire, and he considered that he had a good fighting chance. He was perfectly sure that if Johnson had got half the punishment he had there would have been a different tale to tell. Johnson got in a lucky clip on the jaw at the commencement of the fight, and that in itself was a great advantage. If Johnson had received that clip instead of him, it would have settled the fight so far as Johnson was concerned.

In conclusion, Burns said he was quite prepared to fight Johnson again, not in Australia, as the authorities were evidently against another contest, but in England or America.

[Burns' story of Johnson's seconds crying out "His jaw is broken" is correct, but it is unlikely that the words were audible to Superintendent Mitchell, who was seated on the side of the ring directly opposite.]

MR. M'INTOSH ENTERTAINED.

A TRIBUTE TO BURNS'S PLUCK.

BY MR. JACK LONDON.

Mr. H. D. M'Intosh, the promoter of the Burns-Johnson fight, was entertained by a number of friends at the Australia Hotel last night. The Federal Attorney-General (Mr. Hughes) presided, and among the guests were Mr. Tommy Burns, Mr. Jack London, Mr. Holman, M.L.A., and Alderman Lindsay-Thompson.

Mr. Jack London declared with much enthusiasm that contests such as the Burns-Johnson match were clean, sportsman-like, and healthy. He deprecated the attacks that had been made upon the promoter of the contest, and expressed the opinion that Burns had fought up to the best traditions. His sympathies were all with Burns, and he was sorry to see the black man win. Every blow that Burns received was felt as keenly as if he (Mr. London) himself had received it. But of one thing he was certain, and that was, that no black man living, Johnson included, could have taken 25 per cent. of the punishment Burns did, and still be capable of fighting on. Had Johnson got 25 per cent. of the blows Burns took he would have been counted down and out. When it came to a question of skill, there was no doubt in his mind that the big fight was put up by the white man.

At the conclusion of the banquet a presentation was made to Mr. M'Intosh by his employees.

JEFFRIES-JOHNSON MATCH.

"NO EARTHLY CHANCE."

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

John Wren has been endeavouring to arrange a match between Jeffries and Johnson. He cabled to Mr. W. W. Naughton, sporting editor of the "San Francisco Examiner," asking him to make Jeffries an offer of £10,000. The balance at credit of the Melbourne club, to fight Johnson in Melbourne on next Cup Day. Mr. Wren to-day received the following reply from Mr. Naughton:—"No earthly chance of Jeffries fighting again. Have seen him, and know."

OPINION IN ENGLAND.

PERTH, Thursday.

In regard to the world's championship boxing match in Sydney last Saturday, Geo. Towns, the ex-sculling champion, who arrived by the R.M.S. Ormuz, said that it was fully expected in England when he left that Johnson would win mainly on account of his tremendous height and reach. He was regarded as altogether too big for Burns.

MR. WADE'S ADVICE.

PERTH, Thursday.

The attention of Mr. Wade, Premier of New South Wales, was drawn to the statement of the Chief Secretary of New South Wales, that another fight would not be permitted to take place in that State between Johnson and Burns. Mr. Wade said he thought Mr. M'Intosh would be well advised if he dropped the whole business at once. Asked if he thought such contests were a good advertisement, Mr. Wade said "I would not consider it a good advertisement to have all the pugilists dumped on our shore."

MR. OAKES'S OPINION.

Mr. C. W. Oakes, M.L.A. (vice-president of the C.A.), speaking at the picnic to visiting junior cricketers, spoke warmly in support of clean sport. He deprecated brutality in pugilistic contests, but he thought that scientific boxing should be by no means expunged from the list. In this the exercise of self-control was called for as in no other sport.

A CENTENARIAN'S BIRTHDAY.

AGED 106 YEARS.

COLONIST OF NINETY YEARS.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

William Harwood, an inmate of the Ballarat Benevolent Asylum, yesterday celebrated his 106th birthday. The old man gets about with the aid of a couple of sticks. Ninety years ago he came out to Australia from Dublin aboard the sailing ship Runnymede. He has followed a variety of pursuits. Amongst his work in Victoria was exploring the country west of Geelong at the direction of Geelong's earliest Mayor, and the surveying of the country. Starting from the mouth of the Glenelg the survey party was commissioned by the New South Wales Government to fix the boundary line between that State and South Australia preparatory to the separation of Victoria. Colonel White was in charge of the party, and they had some exciting experiences with the blacks. Harwood himself was speared in the hip, and the wound has never properly healed, but otherwise he is in fairly good health. Harwood states that the New South Wales Government still owes him £200 on account of his surveying work.

AUSTRALIAN ELEVEN.

THE CERTAINTIES.

The certainties for England—that is, if the difficulty with regard to financial arrangements be fixed up—will be chosen in Melbourne to-day by Messrs. F. A. Iredale (N.S.W.), P. M'Alister (Victoria), and C. Hill (South Australia).

In 1905 10 certainties were chosen, and the remaining four were picked at the conclusion of the New South Wales v. Victoria match at the end of January. If the selectors decide upon eleven on the performances of last year, the following may be chosen:—Noble, Hill, Armstrong, Ransford, Trumper, Gregory, Carter, Macartney, Hopkins, Cotter, and Hartigan. Of the remaining three one will need to be the second wicketkeeper. It is quite possible that Gorry will be afforded an opportunity of showing his worth in the remaining important engagements, for Carter may stand down. At present Gorry appears to have a good chance of selection. Gehrs will be a candidate for the position. The remaining men will depend upon further consideration.

SECOND EDITION

BIG FIRE AT BLAYNEY.

SIX SHOPS DESTROYED.

EFFORTS AT EXTINCTION FUTILE.

BLAYNEY, Friday Morning.

About 2 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in a shop in Adelaide-street. The flames spread with great rapidity, and soon other shops were involved.

There is no fire brigade in the town, so that efforts made by hand to extinguish the fire had quickly to be given over.

Before 3 o'clock six shops had been burned to the ground.

STATE REVENUE.

COMMONWEALTH RETURNS LOWER

EFFECT OF REDUCED TAXATION.

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE CREDIT, £1,917,404.

The State Treasurer, Mr. Waddell, last night stated that he was well satisfied with the results of the first half of the financial year just ended. Going back some years, he had found that the last 12 years or more had been an unprecedentedly dry cycle. There had been a few years during this period that had received the average rainfall, and most of the years had been much below it, notably 1902, which was one of the driest on record. The last two years had been droughty all through, and the result was that the harvest last year was far below the average. This year, from information he could gather, there would probably not be more than 13,000,000 bushels of wheat, which would be less than half that produced a few years ago. In many districts the crop for want of rain had been a complete failure, and had been cut for hay. The only consoling thing was that the price for those who had a crop was excellent.

Then as to wool, it was generally thought some weeks back that, owing to the year having been so droughty in the central and southern parts, and the heavy loss of sheep, there would be a shortage of 100,000 bales. The great quantities of wool that had come to hand proved that this estimate was far too high, and although there will probably be a substantial shortage it would be not nearly so great as expected

THE BARRIER TROUBLE.

PICKETING THE PROPRIETARY.

TO START AT MIDNIGHT.

BROKEN HILL, Thursday.

Picketing will start on the Proprietary mine to-night at 12 o'clock. The pickets will be enrolled this afternoon. A levy of 5s per week will be made on men in work to pay the pickets. Strike pay, however, will not be issued, but arrangements will be made to provide the necessaries of life for those out.

Mr. W. Nulty, president A.M.A., addressing the men last night, said: "We want every man who is not working to take his turn at picket work, especially those men who have been working in the Proprietary mine. Books will be kept in which will be entered the name of every man doing his duty. We don't want you men to enter into competition with those working on other mines. Mind, you are justified, and rightly so, in taking a job, but we don't want you to besiege other mines in a mob. Men on the Proprietary have a duty to perform. No one must go across the line. You must prepare for something that is not going to last merely for a fortnight, but more like two months or more. Look after what you have got. Don't waste it, but be prepared for a siege, and eventually you will win."

The combined unions wired Mr. Josiah Thomas, Postmaster-General, asking if the Federal Government could guarantee that the Arbitration Court would sit within one month. Mr. Thomas has replied:—"The Government cannot dictate to the president of the Federal Arbitration Court, but we feel assured that Mr. Higgins will do everything possible to expedite the hearing of the case cited. The Attorney-General, Mr. W. M. Hughes, is of opinion that provided the case is filed immediately no reduction by the Proprietary can be enforced pending the hearing of the case."

Rumours are in circulation that outside labour is to be imported by the Proprietary, also that extra police are expected, but the truth of both reports is officially denied.

Asked as to the feeling existing amongst the men, Mr. W. D. Barnett, secretary of the A.M.A., said:—"The general trend of conversation amongst the men frequenting the A.M.A. office shows them to be very determined not only in their intention to oppose any reduction of wages but also to abstain from seeking employment at the Proprietary mine until such time as the company falls into line by paying the prevailing rate. Two members of the Port Pirie branch arrived by the express and called on me, stating that the feeling in Port Pirie is very strong, the men showing great determination against accepting anything in the shape of a reduction."

RUMOUR OF MORE POLICE.

NINE ELEVENS AND AN EMERGENCY.

Our Broken Hill correspondent telegraphed last night:—

"Another hundred police are coming from Sydney to assist in checking a possible outburst on the part of the men. This information is authentic, despite any official contradiction."

THE OFFICIAL CONTRADICTION.

Superintendent Sherwood, seen last night, said that so far as he knew there was no foundation whatever in the report that any additional men had been sent or were to be sent. He had seen the Inspector-General at 9 p.m. and had spoken to him by telephone at about 9.45 that evening, and he had heard nothing whatever of the matter. No one could be sent from the metropolitan area without his knowledge, because Mr. Garvin would give his orders through him, and the sending of men from the country stations would be an awkward business.

GUARDING THE MINES.

PREPARING FOR A SIEGE.

PROVISIONS FOR THE PROPRIETARY.

BROKEN HILL, Thursday.

The Proprietary Company paid off its men to-day. Included in the pay-off were a number of permanent and staff hands. Apparently only the official staff and a number of tried and old hands are being kept on, though a number of men were given an offer to return to work if they wished. Among those paid off were some of the ambulance staff, firemen, and shift bosses. The mine has been well supplied with provisions, bedding, etc., and is well able to stand a siege. The men so far have carried on their plans systematically, and under law conditions, and there is a hope that to-night will pass over quietly. No trouble, if any, is expected before next week.

The exodus from the mine to-day was remarkable. Men carried away bundles, parcels, and boxes—all apparently happy, and all silent as to the future policy of the Proprietary has yet a card to play, but what that card is is a problem.

The British is being guarded by officials, though the unions have made no advances against this mine. It is thought, however, that the British is as much in the wrong as the Proprietary, and action against it is only being delayed.

The number of men employed on the Barrier mines at the end of November was 2710, against 4607 at the end of September. The number at the end of December will, of course, be much lower. The number employed on January 4, when active work is resumed on most of the mines, will be reduced to approximately about 4500. The actual figures are not yet available. If the Block 10 should close down early in the year the total will be reduced to about 3900.

A body of the Sydney police went on to the Proprietary Mine to-night, and looking the quarters there for the protection of the mine.

A sort of outside picketing started early this evening on the Proprietary mine. No trouble, however, is expected to-night. Mr. Delprat said to a press representative at 4 p.m. that the mine had absolutely closed down; and that he felt very sorry for the men.

THE UNION'S CLAIMS.

WHAT THE MEN WANT.

The claim lodged with Mr. Addison, the Deputy-Registrar, under the Federal Arbitration Act, against the Proprietary Company practically covers the agreement entered into between the associated mines and the A.M.A.

It is claimed on behalf of Proprietary employees are similar rates of wages and working conditions. Demands in brief are that the former agreement between the Proprietary and their employees should be amended to provide that all workmen receiving 7s 6d and under per eight-hour shift, should receive 15 per cent. increase; that workmen receiving more than 7s 6d and not above 8s 4d, shall be paid increase of 14 per cent.; and that workmen in receipt of over 8s 4d shall receive increase of 1s per shift.

These increased rates are to be considered standard wages at the Proprietary. Overtime and hours worked on holidays to be paid at the rate of time and a quarter.

EARLY HEARING LIKELY.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

It is understood that Mr. Justice Higgins, the President of the Arbitration Court, is prepared to acquiesce in whatever arrangement may be made between the parties, both as to time and place, for the speedy hearing of the case. Legally the Proprietary Company is entitled to have a period of 21 days in which to decide upon its course of action in relation to the plaint. The unions are anxious to have the case brought before the Court forthwith.

A copy of the claim filed in Sydney was served upon the Broken Hill Proprietary Company to-day. Mr. F. M. Dickenson, secretary of the company, when asked whether he had received a copy of the opinion of the Federal Attorney-General respecting the conditions which must operate with the parties in any reference to the Federal Arbitration Court, replied in the negative.

BROKEN HILL, Thursday.

The claim filed by the A.M.A. against the Proprietary Company in the Federal Arbitration Court was put in the hands of Mr. A. J. Hall, solicitor, who was visiting Sydney, and who will represent the unions during the struggle. The Proprietary Company has promised to abide by the decision of the Court, though whether the decision will force the mine to resume work is another question.

Under the present arrangements the fire area in the mine will be protected, but no work will be attempted. The natural inflow of water will not be checked, though the Block 10 and Central will both pump to keep the water out of their workings. Production, however, will not be looked for on the Proprietary.

A MISCALCULATED DIVE.

PLUNGE IN SHALLOW WATER.

TAREE, Thursday.

A young man named Albert Warren, of Lansdowne, whilst spending holidays at Harrington yesterday, dived off the roof of a bathing shed into a 3ft 6in. of water. He intended to reach deeper water, but fell short, injuring his spine. He was conveyed to the Manning River District Hospital at Taree in the steamer John Collins, and held out for his recovery.

TASMANIA.

INCREASE OF POPULATION.

HOBART, Thursday.

Although the corrected figures are not yet to hand, the officials of the Statistician's Department estimate that the total population of Tasmania on December 31, 1908, was 184,649, made up of 94,893 males and 89,756 females. The population on December 31 of the preceding year was 184,008, so that there is an increase of 641. Although this is so, there has been a loss by emigration of 2484 souls, comprising 1163 males and 1318 females, the increase of 641 in the population being made up of excess of births over deaths.

NORTHERN TERRITORY.

BORING AT WEST ARM.

PORT DARWIN, Thursday.

All the Government boring plant has now been transferred to West Arm, and the working staff crossed the harbour this morning to begin the work of placing the plant in position.

NEW ZEALAND.

THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

WELLINGTON, Thursday.

The Minister for Labour, Mr. Millar, when interviewed, said there seemed to be a feeling of contentment amongst workers. He believed that constant employment, which was likely to obtain, would reduce labour troubles during the coming year to a minimum. As to the new Arbitration Act, he said he had every reason to believe the spirit of conciliation was getting stronger. He had every hope the new measure will meet what seems to be a growing desire to go back to the original intention of this legislation, namely, conciliation.

CASUALTIES.

WHARF-LABOURER'S DEATH.

Robert Dunsmore, aged about 28 years, died suddenly yesterday in Market-street, near Kent-street. It appears that deceased, who was a wharf-labourer, was lying on the Illawarra Wharf, and complained to a friend of pains in the chest. A friend was taking him to a chemist's shop when he collapsed and died. The body was removed to the Morgue, where an inquest will be held.

A CHILD DROWNED.

Edward Lewis, a child of 6, who was living in Stevens'-buildings, Windmill-street, Miller's Point, was playing at about 4.30 yesterday with another child, Arthur Murray, aged 5, in a punt moored at Dalton's Wharf, when Lewis overbalanced and fell into the water. The alarm was raised, and after some little time the child was taken from the water by George Bushell, Kent-street. The police and the N.S.W. Ambulance were summoned. Sergeant Wallace and Constable Markham, of No. 4 Police Station, were sent down, and the sergeant and the Ambulance Corps for an hour tried in vain to restore animation. The body was then taken by the ambulance to the Sydney Hospital, where Dr. Aspinall pronounced life extinct, and finally to the Morgue.

ACCIDENT AT GRACE BROS.

ENGINEER KILLED.

The Civil Ambulance were called out last evening to Grace Bros.' power-house, Francis-street. Glebe, where they found the body of John Francis, engineer, lately living in Johnston-street, Annandale, lying in the pit underneath the flywheel. The body was in such a position that the ambulance men had to strip to their singlets to get it out. The skull and both forearms were fractured. Dr. Sydney Jones was summoned and pronounced life extinct. It is thought that Francis must have been standing on the grating above the flywheel, lightening a nut, and must have slipped and fallen upon the coupling of the flywheel, which would have carried him round and underneath into the position in which he was found.

RUN OVER BY A LORRY.

BRISBANE, Thursday.

A young married man, Charles Ives, 28, employed as a storeman, was driving into town with a lorry and pair this afternoon, when the horses bolted. Ives was thrown out and the wheels passed over him. When picked up it was found that he had his chest and back severely injured, several ribs being smashed in, and he was hurt internally. He died at the hospital shortly after admission.

STRUCK WITH AN AXE.

YASS, Thursday.

A painful accident happened to Mr. G. W. Merriman in this town. He was chopping a log of wood when the axe slipped, striking his foot, severing four of his toes. He was brought into Yass Hospital, where he is progressing favourably.

THE HEAT WAVE.

EXTRAORDINARY TEMPERATURES.

Another extremely sultry day was experienced yesterday throughout the State. In the city the maximum shade reading of the thermometer was 85 degrees—11 degrees below the previous day's registration, but still high enough to render the conditions very uncomfortable. Intense heat ruled in the inland districts, and every station reported a cloudless sky. Among the records furnished to the Weather Bureau yesterday were:—

	Degrees.		Degrees.
Wilcannia	111	Walgett	110
Broken Hill	111	Wentworth	108
Dubbo	111	Hay	107
Cobar	111	Forbes	107
Hillston	110	Deniliquin	106

Additional reports received yesterday by the Weather Bureau gave the following high temperatures recorded on Wednesday:—

	Degs.		Degs.
Mount Hope	113	Carinda	108
Menindie	113	Scone	108
Euston	112	Mungindi	107
Jerry's Plains	112	Moree	107
Bewarrina	110	Quambone	107
Wilcannia	110	Maitland	107
Balranald	110	Picton	107
Condobolin	110	Narrabri	106
Bourke	109	Barmedman	106
Cudgellico	109	Morangarell	106
Wellington	109	Narrandera	105
White Cliffs	109	Henty	105
Cobar	108	Singleton	105

A continuation of fine and hot conditions is predicted for to-day.

BELLINGEN.—A heat wave passed over the town on Thursday, the thermometers registering 106 in the shade. Many people are suffering from colic and other effects of the heat.

BREWARRINA.—Thursday was the hottest day this summer. The thermometer showed a maximum shade temperature of 117 degrees.

BROKEN HILL.—The temperature on Thursday was a record for several years past. Starting at noon at 107 degrees it rose to 112 degrees before 4 o'clock, equal by private thermometers to 117 degrees. Menindie and Wilcannia both reported 115 degrees. The excessive heat has prostrated many people.

* DUBBO.—On Wednesday the highest reading of the thermometer was 105½, on Thursday it was 90 at 9 a.m., rising to 110½ and falling to 105½.

GERRINGONG.—The rainfall here for December was 156 points, which fell in nine days, making a total of 3781 points of rain for the year, being 923 in excess of the total for last year. This year rain fell on 107 days, against 81 days last year, but even then it is far away from being sufficient to meet requirements. The creeks are very dry, and there are none of the green crops which are essential to keep up the milk supply. Farmers are getting lucerne hay from Sydney.

GILGANDRA.—The shade temperature on Thursday was 110.

GRAFTON.—The weather has been exceedingly hot. On Wednesday the thermometer registered 102 in the shade, and on Thursday 110.

KEMPSEY.—The heat on Wednesday was terrific—110 degrees.

MACLEAN.—The temperature on Thursday was 105 in the shade.

MURWILLUMBAH.—The heat on Thursday was excessively oppressive, registering 100 deg. in the shade.

NARRABRI.—The weather conditions on Wednesday and Thursday were almost intolerable, registering the highest temperatures this season. The true shade temperature reached 113 on Thursday, and 106 on Wednesday. A scorching westerly prevailed on Thursday, and will materially damage the growth of vegetable crops. Outside workers have been compelled to cease their occupations on account of the intense heat, and many are prostrated. The rainfall for the year totals 29 inches locally, but portions of the district have had more. This record is two inches in excess of the average yearly rainfall.

NYNGAN.—Intense heat conditions prevailed on Wednesday and Thursday. No provision is made to register the temperatures at the post-office; but private thermometers gave the heat on Thursday at 112, and on Wednesday 108. The scarcity of water adds to the distressing conditions of the weather.

WEE WAA.—The weather on Thursday was extremely hot, the thermometer reaching 108 in the shade.

Mr. Rockefeller, the American "Oil King," was a witness on subpoena in the case against the Standard Oil Trust in the Federal Court of New York. His evidence lasted for five days, and he showed a splendid memory and great resourcefulness. He was very friendly with the reporters. "Go ahead, boys," he told a group with cameras, "we must all live," and he stepped forward so that he could easily be taken. To a young reporter who congratulated him on the vigour he displays at sixty-nine and a half, he said "I would like to be young again. I see you boys all busy. I hope you will continue to have plenty of work, and that you won't squander the fruits of your labour."

REVENUE DETAILS.

HEAVY DECREASE ON YEAR.

LARGELY COMMONWEALTH SHORTAGE.

The revenue figures for New South Wales were made available last night, and embraced both those for the year and for the month of December. The following is the official statement:—

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE ACCOUNT.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE REVENUE AND RECEIPTS OF THE STATE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	Governmental. Gross. £	Governmental. Net. £	Business Undertakings. Gross. £	Business Undertakings. Net. £
Month of—				
December, 1907	747,966	738,003	678,803	649,871
December, 1908	579,360	570,796	713,922	668,100
Increase	—	—	35,119	18,229
Decrease	168,606	168,107	—	—
Quarter ended—				
December 31, 1907	2,009,214	1,978,416	1,978,780	1,860,141
December 31, 1908	1,806,549	1,881,248	2,055,491	2,014,432
Increase	—	—	76,711	54,291
Decrease	402,665	297,168	—	—
Halfyear ended—				
December 31, 1907	2,776,553	2,713,838	3,516,578	3,477,245
December 31, 1908	2,231,983	2,170,589	3,602,5[illegible]	3,557,776
Increase	—	—	115,964	80,531
Decrease	545,570	543,244	—	—

Net decrease on month	£119,878
Net decrease on quarter	342,877
Net decrease on half-year	435,74[illegible]

Comparative statement of the gross consolidated revenue of the State of New South Wales, received during July 1 to December 31, 1907, and July 1 to December 31, 1908, respectively, showing the decrease or increase under each head thereof; also total net revenue proper for same periods:—

Head of Revenue or Receipt.	Half-year. 1907. £	Half-year. 1908. £	Decrease. £	Increase. £
Revenue proper.				
Commonwealth returns	1,066,966	1,022,855	373,411	—
Stamps	334,356	268,174	66,182	—
Land tax	149,519	76,957	72,057	—
Income tax	39,249	25,884	4,365	—
Licenses	40,416	40,876	—	360
Land revenue	949,666	913,593	—	63,123
Mint receipts	5,356	6,188	—	832
Fees for escort of gold	121	90	22	—
Pilotage, harbour dues, etc.	57,087	48,765	8,322	—
Agricultural colleges, etc.	3,424	3,324	—	100
Fees	66,780	68,900	—	2,111
Miscellaneous services	33,553	39,460	—	5,908
Rents—exclusive of land	7,592	6,684	908	—
Fines and forfeitures	10,407	10,118	291	—
Country towns, W.S., interest	13,850	14,410	—	534
Country towns Sewerage, interest	984	1,102	—	118
Water rights receipts	114	348	—	234
Church and school lands	409	412	—	3
Superannuation Act	6,160	6,261	—	102
Darling Harbour resumptions	22,428	23,305	—	877
Unclassified receipts	147,880	74,274	73,223	—
Total	3,776,565	3,220,883		
Less refunds	62,720	51,294		
Net	3,713,833	3,179,589		
Business Undertakings—				
Railways	1,795,595	2,094,449	—	98,854
Tramways	492,460	255,635	—	23,175
Sydney Harbour Trust	163,651	167,075	—	3,424
Metropolitan water rates	137,465	126,241	9,144	—
Metropolitan sewerage rates	105,851	103,633	2,218	—
Hunter District water rates	21,526	13,526	8,027	—
Total	3,516,578	3,602,542		
Less refunds	39,332	74,766		
Net	3,477,245	3,527,776	639,282	329,676
Gross totals	7,293,131	6,822,925	429,606	—
Total net revenue and receipts proper	7,191,078	6,737,365	453,712	—

VICTORIA.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The State revenue of Victoria, including the returns of Customs receipts from the Commonwealth, amounted to £3,904,537 for the six months ended to-day. This figure is less by £320,367 than the receipts for the same period of 1907; but the heavy decrease thus shown is discounted by the fact that the State received from the Commonwealth during the half year just closed £458,508 less than it did in the corresponding period of the previous year, so that the revenue from purely State sources, ignoring Commonwealth returns, has advanced by £138,141. This increase has been due mainly to the big returns from excise and probate duties, though in most of the sources of revenue there has been a slight upward movement. The railway receipts have already increased by almost as much as Sir Thomas Bent expected the increase would be for the whole year, £41,600; and his estimated advance of £107,000 in the probate duties has already been exceeded.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADELAIDE, Thursday.

The approximate revenue for the current six months was £362,000, a decrease as compared with the corresponding period of last year of £69,304. The principal decreases were:—Taxation, £24,232; railways, £36,322; interest, £10,408; territorial, £4261; Commonwealth, £30,463; total, £106,228. Against these are miscellaneous increases, £46,922. The Treasurer expected to receive during the financial year an amount less than that of the previous year by £272,846, and to close the year with a surplus of £71,922 on the showing of the present increase. Unless the Barrier trouble greatly interferes with the results, his expected surplus will be largely exceeded.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

PERTH, Thursday.

The revenue of the State for December was £306,670, and the expenditure £383,261, showing a surplus of £76,389. Compared with the corresponding month of last year the revenue shows a decrease of £20,460, while the expenditure increased by £11,457. The revenue, however, was £24,123 more than the Treasurer's estimate. The returns from the Commonwealth show a falling off of £24,235 compared with December last year. For the six months of the present financial year the revenue was £1,497,029, against £1,509,711 for the same period last year. The expenditure was £1,612,693. The operations bring the deficit for the current year down to £115,665, and the accumulated deficit to £336,768.

NEW YEAR'S EVE.

EXEMPLARY CROWDS.

EXCELLENT POLICE SUPERVISION.

Sydney may congratulate itself on the good behaviour of the crowds which thrust themselves through the main thoroughfares of the city last night. The crowds, perhaps, should not receive all the credit for the good behaviour. The police deserve a share, and a large share, of the praise. Their organisation was excellent, and, following the tactics used in the recent tramway strike, they kept the crowds moving all the time.

Every street corner had its sergeant of police, with a number of stalwart officers, uniformed and plain-dressed, ready to call Larrikins—and there were a few here and there—nandn't a chance to engage in disorderly practices. They knew it, and kept within the bounds of decency and decorum. Occasionally some mln, bearing the impress of "pushdom" on his countenance, would be heard to remark to his "cobbers," "Spratty" or "Squealer," to look out for the "cop." The "cop," in such cases, was invariably in plain clothes. The larrikin knew the "cop," and the "cop" knew the larrikin. Mutual recognition made for the good of both, and preserved the majesty of the law.

In a stroll round one could not help but note that the crowds, though large, were not so numerous as last year, but they were happy, and women and girls moved about without fear of insult or molestation. Occasionally some over-exuberant person would provoke an earsplitting blare from a paper trumpet But the blare invariably led to the confiscation of the trumpet, which was crushed to pulp in the powerful palm of some watchful constable. One man essayed to push a trade in trumpets, and put up a sign which was decidedly ingenious. It read, "Don't wake the wowsers." And the crowd cheerfully, but compulsorily, followed the advice on the sign, which stood out in prominent reproach to the wit of the vendor of trumpets. One man, however, who had dined not wisely but too well, did secure a trumpet, and persisted in blowing it. He was promptly marched off, clinging to his trumpet, on which he blew loud blasts of derision whenever he could wrest a hand free.

As early as 10 o'clock the crowds began to thin out. At 11 o'clock the people in the street were scarcely so many as are to be seen on an ordinary Saturday night. All the homeward trams were packed, and few remained behind to hear the Post Office clock clang out the last note of the old year. The police remained to the end, and were then thanking Heaven that the New Year was in at last, as announced by the ringing of bells and the screech of steamer whistles.

POLICE STATEMENT.

Superintendent Sherwood said last night that the evening had been, like Christmas Eve, a remarkably quiet and orderly one. There was not much to differentiate it from an ordinary Saturday night. There was no rowdyism, and a total absence of bugles. About 900 men were on duty in the metropolitan area. The disposition of the men among the suburban police stations remained practically unchanged, a large force being concentrated in the heart of the city. About the area bounded roughly by Liverpool and Hunter streets, and College-street and Darling Harbour, 300 men were on duty. This force was under the control of Superintendents Sheridan, Mitchell, and Edwards, Inspector Trenchard, and Sub-inspectors Sobye and Tait. The different stations were under their usual officers, Sub-inspector Miller taking Inspector Roche's place at No. 2 station.

THE NEW YEAR.

The souvenir performances, this afternoon and evening, celebrating the one hundredth representation of "The Merry Widow" at Her Majesty's Theatre, with illustrated programme for every visitor, will be one of the chief events of New Year's Day, and there will be an evening performance at the Theatre Royal of "The Sign of the Cross" (matinee to-morrow). At the Criterion Mr. Wm. Anderson's company will stage "The Gayest of the Gay" both afternoon and evening. At the Palace Mr. Edwin Geo. Sheridan notifies the juvenile pantomime "Robinson Crusoe" for the afternoon, and the melodrama, "The Woman Pays" for the evening. At the Tivoli, both afternoon and evening, Mr. Harry Rickards' special holiday programme will include Jack Johnson's sparring turn (farewell appearances to-morrow), both afternoon and evening, and similarly there will be a holiday matinee with extra attractions at the National Amphitheatre. Mr. G. Spencer notifies entirely new programmes afternoon and evening at the Lyceum. Mr. T. J. West, both afternoon and evening presents entirely new programmes, including "The Arielenne." The Pilot Picture Palace has daily matinees this week, with new pictures. The Victoria Hall management announces a New Year Day matinee. Clay's Vaudeville Company make an additional appearance to-night at the Royal Standard Theatre. Mr. Rupert Scott is showing the beautiful "Our Empire" series at Queen's Hall, and there will a Newbury concert and pictures at the Exhibition Building.

The Burns-Johnson fight pictures are drawing enormous audiences to the Bijou, where every detail of the world's championship contest is perfectly shown. The season is limited to a night or two, as announced in another column.

The Highland Society's carnival sports day at the Royal Agricultural Society's Grounds will be followed at night by their customary concert at the Town Hall. The list of artists will include Miss Bessie Fraser, Miss Zillah Harrison, Messrs. Alfred Black, Miss Hindmarsh-Jones, Mr. K. Jamieson, Master Harold M'Beath, the Sydney Madrigal Society, the Scottish Rifles Band, the Highland Society's Pipe Band, dancers, and pipers.

Mr. Philip Newbury and Miss Emily Spada will give a concert in the Exhibition Building with Mr. Newbury as the star tenor and the American soprano will sing some of their best numbers. The assisting artists will be Misses Ruby Riccardi, Leslie Harbutt, Florence Morton, Messrs. Percy Herford, Torzillo, and Ernest Drumm.

Wonderland City will be open to picnic parties and visitors generally from morn' till night at a low general tariff, which will cover admission to the sideshows.

NEWCASTLE, Thursday.

A very large number of visitors from all parts congregated in the city to-night, and the utmost order prevailed. Up till a late hour the streets were thronged, and afterwards the outgoing trains and trams were crowded. The Sydney boat took a full contingent for the metropolis. Watch-night services were held at most of the churches.

SOUTH GRÉTA TROUBLE.

AN AMICABLE AGREEMENT.

WORK TO BE RESUMED.

WEST MAITLAND, Thursday.

The situation at the South Greta colliery was discussed to-day by district officers Mr. Williams (vice-president) and Brennan (general secretary) at a meeting of the men, who resolved in refusing to be guided by the advice tendered by the committee of management they said was unjustifiable and untenable.

Mr. Brennan said that the new year was going to be ushered in with numerous troubles, many of which were being dealt with in a constitutional way; but it would never do for the men to ignore the advice of the federation, and act on their own. He hoped the men would accept the advice of Mr. Lewis that cavil be drawn, and work gone on with pending the consideration of the position by the delegate board.

Eventually the matter in dispute was left in the hands of the executive officers, who are to wait on the manager of the colliery, the meeting deciding to abide by the result of the officers' deliberations.

An amicable arrangement of the difficulty was arrived at this evening. Accompanied by lodge officials the district officers waited on the manager this afternoon and reported the result of the negotiations to a meeting of the men this evening. It was stated that Mr. Miller had agreed to machine boards being cavilled in the general cavil, and assured the deputation that the men working picks would be given equal opportunities with men shooting and filling machine-cut coal, so far as the proportionate supply of skips was concerned. With regard to the Abermain agreement for scoeting and filling machine-cut coal, together with 2d per ton for wheeling, which he had agreed to work under, they desired that a trial should be made for a month; but the manager desired a three months' trial. The matter was discussed at considerable length, and eventually a compromise was agreed upon and the period of trial fixed for six weeks, at the end of which time the district officers stated they would be able to tell how the arrangement worked in the interests of the men. A hope was expressed that the trouble, so far as South Greta was concerned, was at an end for some time at east. In accordance with the agreement arrived at cavil will be drawn on Saturday, and coal-getting operations resumed in Monday.

SUDDEN DEATH.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

W. H. V. Williamson, a resident of Durham Lead for 47 years, died in tragic circumstances at his residence this morning. The family had been celebrating the approaching marriage of one of the daughters, and at 2.30 a.m. the company had just concluded singing "Auld Lang Syne," when Mr. Williamson, who was sitting talking to his intended son-in-law, swooned and died.

THE YEAR'S RAINFALL.

GENERALLY BELOW AVERAGE.

The divisional officer of the Commonwealth Weather Bureau, Mr. Stewart Wilson, yesterday issued his annual report, together with a special rainfall chart. After reviewing the climatic conditions of each month of the past year he summarised his conclusions as follows:—

"The plotting of the totals for the year 1908 shows that the rainfall has been above average in the north-eastern districts of the State, with the exception of a great portion of the northern tablelands and north coast. West of the Darling also the amounts were chiefly in excess of the normal, as also at one or two widely scattered places. Otherwise over fully three-fourths of New South Wales the totals were generally less than average.

"Great disparities are shown at various stations on the coast. Kempsey, with a total of 3667, was 119 points below the average; Jervis Bay, total 4209, 1529 points below; and Moruya's total, 2569, represents 1022 points below average.

"The largest amount during the year was recorded at Cape Byron, with 8708 points, or 1835 above average. Other totals greatly above average were: Boggabri, with 3447, or 1144 points above; Seal Rocks, 6258, or 1585 points above; Newcastle, 6372, or 1568 above average.

"The smallest amount was experienced at Euriowie and Mosgiel, in the western division, with 681 points each."

Appended is a complete list of the rainfall registrations for 1908, together with the average at each station:—

WESTERN DIVISION.

Station.	Total. 1908. In.	Total. 1908. In.	Station.	Total. 1908. In.	Avg. In.
Collarenebri	22.06	18.71	Milparinka	7.02	7.88
Brewarrina	14.88	16.63	Hungerford	12.64	13.76
Bourke	10.67	15.27	Wanaaring	13.66	12.18
White Cliffs	7.87	—	Barringun	11.23	15.29
Wilcannia	6.84	10.47	Enngonia	12.17	14.43
Cobar	12.38	14.68	Goodooga	12.84	17.05
Nymagee	12.97	16.48	Gongolgon	13.71	16.65
Mount Hope	13.07	15.28	Byrock	13.41	14.75
Menindie	7.61	9.11	Louth	10.36	13.41
Broken Hill	9.91	9.24	Tilpa	11.06	11.06
Mogil	25.86	19.09	Eurlowie	6.81	8.45
Wentworth	11.60	11.79	Euabalong	15.62	16.54
Euston	10.20	12.13	Mosgiel	6.81	11.05
Balranald	8.62	11.96	Ivanhoe	7.52	12.28
Tibooburra	8.11	7.71	Poonaria	8.40	10.30

NORTH-WESTERN PLAINS.

Mungindi	23.83	20.49	Narromine	24.06	22.65
Moree	27.24	22.22	Boggabilla	25.65	23.00
Narrabri	30.05	28.12	Millie	29.39	24.11
Walgett	21.82	18.97	Wee Waa	22.56	23.08
Pilliga	27.80	20.00			

CENTRAL WESTERN PLAINS.

Carinda	18.36	14.95	Nyngan	9.54	15.90
Quambone	18.12	15.69	Warren	14.09	18.18
Coonamble	15.80	19.92	Narromine	16.64	18.56
Condobolin	13.78	17.68	Trangie	15.74	20.74
Girilambone	10.24	16.83	Dandaloo	15.61	17.56
Cannonbar	13.97	19.20	Ungarie	11.90	16.35
Gilgandra	20.81	25.14			

RIVERINA.

Hillston	12.17	14.13	Mossgiel	7.26	11.67
Cudgellico	15.90	15.80	Carathool	9.57	12.57
Hay	9.54	14.35	Grong Grong	13.96	16.72
Narrandera	12.79	17.18	Moulamein	11.72	14.43
Coolamon	17.11	20.71	Jerilderie	10.83	15.64
Urana	13.41	17.10	Whitton	11.64	16.09
Wagga	17.04	21.75	Tocumwal	12.50	15.11
Deniliquin	10.40	16.46	Corowa	17.71	19.56
Henty	18.84	20.27			

NORTH-WESTERN SLOPES.

Warialda	30.49	27.97	Manilla	27.86	26.30
Bingara	29.26	30.51	Werris Creek	28.30	24.81
Inverell	30.87	30.73	Tamworth		
Gunnedah	31.78	24.72	Springs	29.19	25.85
Tamworth	29.54	27.65	Bundella	28.16	22.49
Bundarra	35.02	28.57	Fine Ridge	31.50	25.72
Quirindi	29.78	27.76	Nundle	37.21	37.76
Yetman	29.93	30.79	Blackville	30.74	28.05
Barraba	32.37	27.34	Bendemeer	37.28	33.93
Boggabri	34.47	23.05			

CENTRAL WESTERN SLOPES.

Coonabarabran	22.56	22.39	Molong	22.06	20.20
Coolah	24.38	27.04	Forbes	15.39	20.16
Dubbo	19.44	22.46	Yeoval	17.29	18.31
Wellington	15.66	23.04	Parkes	17.36	21.78

SOUTH-WESTERN SLOPES.

Wyalong	14.38	18.06	Albury	30.76	28.15
Barmedman	18.57	25.04	Adelong	34.19	30.03
Marsdens	17.17	19.66	Germanton	31.62	27.43
Morangarell	16.28	20.90	Burrowa	18.37	21.74
Harmedman	17.31	18.61	Temora	16.66	18.84
Young	19.81	24.30	Gundagai	20.81	23.27
Coootamundra	16.47	23.14	Tumut	23.94	67.96
Murrumburrah	18.21	23.15	Turvutta	19.53	26.09
Junee	15.90	20.80	Tumbarumba	32.00	39.56

NORTHERN TABLELAND.

Tenterfield	30.48	33.62	Uralla	27.46	33.84
Tabulam	43.06	38.73	Walcha	35.70	35.93
Glen Innes	24.05	32.69	Emmaville	29.37	34.61
Armidale	31.03	31.79			

CENTRAL TABLELAND.

Camilla	23.33	23.76	Cowra	17.41	24.06
Gulgong	20.74	26.45	Rockley	22.22	25.58
Mudgee	19.88	26.11	Mt. Victoria	39.88	37.27
Hill End	22.50	29.16	Katoomba	50.39	56.76
Orange	28.70	36.61	Hartley	30.38	34.31
Bathurst	19.14	23.84	Lawson	52.08	46.35
Blayney	18.11	30.09	Springwood	41.57	41.10
Carcoar	15.13	25.78	Yeralla	34.76	25.89

SOUTHERN TABLELAND.

Goulburn	18.44	25.63	Bombala	22.02	22.92
Yass	19.50	24.28	Cooma	21.25	25.49
Queanbeyan	17.65	22.75	Bungendore	19.85	22.75
Braidwood	31.41	34.46	Araluen	37.17	41.50
Klandra	42.18	64.79	Bemboka	25.74	32.92
Cooma	17.60	19.18	Delegate	20.13	24.45
Nimitybelle	22.70	24.02	Cooma	30.45	31.89

NORTH COAST.

Tweed Heads	71.23	70.46	Kempsey	36.67	47.86
Casino	44.92

THE LABOUR YEAR.

GOOD PROGRESS.

INCREASED WAGES AND BETTER CONDITIONS.

The year that has passed was one of industrial strife and constitutional settlements. Labour has gained during 1908, but in practically no case was that gain brought about by the method of the strike. On the other hand, all that labour has lost is due to strike. The industrial strifes of the tramway men, the wharf labourers, the rockchoppers, and the Airlie miners left the labour participants weakened morally and financially.

TRAMWAY MEN.

"Over 90 per cent. of the members of the Tramway Union," said Mr. Walton, secretary of the union recently, "have received an increase, averaging over 4s per week, as a result of the recent award of the Tramway Board, which came into force on December 4, 1908, so far as our men are concerned; and January 1, 1909, so far as the electrical employees are concerned. Quite a number of anomalies have been rectified, and, generally speaking, the award of the board has given eminent satisfaction to the men. It is believed that the union and the Commissioners will be able to work amicably under the new arrangement, and everything points to a happy and contented tramway service for the year 1909."

The union has gained in strength since the strike and the electrical staff are said to be joining en bloc as a result of the award. The union has, by the award, also gained 11hr and a quarter extra pay for Sundays, a privilege not enjoyed in previous years.

BUILDING TRADES.

Perhaps the most noticeable feature of the year's work, so far as the different unions connected with the building trade are concerned, has been the linking up of the various units under the Building Trade Federation. As a result of this practically every union, with the exception of the stonemasons and builders' labourers, have federated and stand as one solid body, with a code of rules which provide for concerted action in the defence of individual bodies. Many of the unions connected with this trade have had peace during 1908, and have been pursuing the even tenor of their way under the protection of Arbitration Court awards, which came into force before 1908. The Painters' Union, which passed through a lengthy strike against the Master Painters during the year, have come out satisfactorily, having received an award under the old Arbitration Act which gained for the men 1d per hour on the wages paid in recent years. Despite the strike the union is financially stronger than in latter years, and during the last half-year has opened a branch at Newcastle. It has joined the Building Trades Federation, and has affiliated with the Trades Hall conference in Melbourne to be held next week for the purpose of binding the trade throughout the Commonwealth.

The sawmill and timber yard employees have had a good year, the old award of 1906 being set aside in February, 1908, after the strike in February. The new award which came into force in May 12, 1908, brought practically no increase of wages to the skilled tradesmen, bushbarkers, ordermen, tallymen, measurers, firemen, second-class machinists, and beaminders received increases. The rate for boy labour was raised by 15 per cent., and casual labourers' wages were increased 1½d per hour, with an increase of 6d per hour when dealing with wet timber. They also received time and a half rates for all overtime, while some of the old conditions they only received time and a quarter for the first two-hours overtime. Other minor concessions were included in the award.

FURNITURE TRADE.

The United Furniture Trades' Society has gained considerably in membership during the past year, and has manufactured up into two sectional unions. These are the Picture Frame and Overmantel Makers and the Wire Mattress Makers, and at their first meeting in the new year delegates will be elected to attend the conference in Melbourne, which has in view the linking up of unions connected with the trade in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and probably New Zealand. The society's membership has been increased by 75, and now totals 700. They are still working under the old award of 1905, which remains in force until July, 1909. When the award came into force the society's funds totalled £300. They now run into four figures.

DRIVERS AND FIREMEN.

Owing largely to the energies of their general secretary, Mr. H. A. Mitchell, the past year has seen much good work done for the Federated Engine Drivers and Firemen's Association of Australia (coast branch). The southern wages board has been sitting for some time in Sydney, and the western wages board has been meeting in Lithgow. They are now waiting for the conclusion of the evidence before the northern board, which includes Newcastle and Maitland districts, before an award is given. From the evidence already adduced there is every reason to expect that the wages and conditions of the engine-drivers and firemen at the various collieries throughout the State will be benefited by the award.

STOREMEN AND MILLERS.

The advantages gained by the storemen have been considerable. The whole of the men in the wool stores and the majority of the men in the skin and produce stores, are well paid. In the wool-dumping stores, have had their hours reduced from 58 to 50 per week. The minimum rate has been raised from £2 to £2 5s per week, and overtime rates have been increased from 1s to 1s 6d per hour. In previous years the men were paid ordinary rates for holiday work. They now receive double rates, while on Christmas Day, Good Friday, and Sundays they are paid 3s per hour. All these improvements and several other minor improvements are embodied in the industrial agreement between the union and the Sydney Wool-selling Brokers' Association.

As far as the Millers' Union is concerned, it is stated that since it came into existence in May last year one or two mills, then working 12 hours per day, have reduced their working hours to eight. The employers have promised a conference early in January, when the union hopes that better conditions will be obtained.

Many other unions have made gains during the year, and amongst these are included the wharf-labourers, the trolly and draymen, saddlers, typographical, brewers, and butchers' shop employees, in other cases such unions as the Journeymen Tailors' Union, Hotel, Caterers, Restaurant, and Clubs' Employees' Union, the Tipcarters' Union, Bookbinders' Union, and others are awaiting the conclusion of the sittings of wages boards, from the awards of which better conditions are expected. Other unions, such as the Hairdressers' Union, have made application for wages boards, and have great expectations for the future.

Several prominent unionists, when questioned as to the cause of labour's recent progress stated that it was probably due to the fact that the introduction of industrial arbitration legislation and the formation of Industrial Courts tended to diffuse through the whole State industrial education and although still groping in the dark to a certain extent they were now learning by experience the lesson which strikes and industrial warfare had failed to teach them.

VICTORIAN WHEAT YIELD.

THE CHAPMAN SACK.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Great activity is already being shown at Williamstown Piers in shipping the wheat crop. There is a large surplus for export, and wheat is coming forward much earlier than usual. The crop is being bagged and shipped in fine style. The grain is pronounced by experts engaged in its shipment as splendid. For the first time practical experience has been gained this harvest in handling and shipping wheat in the new standard cornsack, which is supposed to hold 200lb, but only averages about 185lb to 190lb. It was on behalf of the wharf lumpers the appeal was made for the abolition of the old cornsacks, which generally held 250lb, and sometimes exceeded this weight. Many of the wheat lumpers at Williamstown already regret the change. A smaller bag required a greater number to be stacked in a given time than was necessary with the old bags. What is gained in the lesser weight of each bag is lost in the extra number carried in the shift. The work is more continuous and there is no rest between the sling loads sent down the hold. One distinct advantage, however, the new cornsack has over the old one is that there is not the same loss incurred from broken and damaged bags in transit. With the heavier bags this loss in the railway trucks, in stores, and stacks, and in ships' holds, was often considerable.

O-CE-O-LO, the shampoo, will cleanse the scalp and hair better than any other compound made. One shilling per jar.—Advt.

"Mosman Bay on Christmas Eve" is the little given to a splendid drawing by Norman Carter, which occupies the central pages of the "Sydney Mail" this week.—Advt.

TERALBA DISPUTE.

ROYAL COMMISSION'S JUDGMENT.

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE FOR SHOOTERS AND FILLERS.

MR. FORSYTH'S STRONG OBJECTIONS.

After over twelve months of existence, during which many troubles were encountered and overcome, the Royal Commission on Coal-mining Disputes (Newcastle and Gunnedah districts) concluded its labours yesterday.

The Royal Commission included Judge Heydon as President, and Messrs. A. Forsyth and Peter Bowling. Evidence was taken in the Teralba district, and it covered an immense amount of detail. During the twelve months Judge Heydon resigned from the presidential position, but was induced to take it up again on the earnest intercession of both parties to the dispute.

In his judgment, the President said the award dealt with Teralba alone. So far as he was concerned, it was not intended to govern, or even to guide, in any way the mind of his successor when he took up the Newcastle and Maitland cases. The views of his fellow-Commissioners and himself had been so divergent and strongly held that it was with great difficulty that they had been able to arrive at an award at all. Only as to the greater part of the wages of the off-hand men and a few points of small importance, had the three minds been able to accept a compromise. The most important claim was for an increased tonnage rate for the shooters and fillers, and another troublesome matter was the method of arriving at the selling-price of the coal. The claim of the shooters and fillers to an extra fourpence as a matter of contract had not been made out. He had, however, concluded that the sliding scale of payment must be such as to give the men a rise at the present selling rate. From a suggestion by Mr. Bowling, he had found a compromise at a rate of 1½d in the shilling, which would give the men lower rates as the coal approached unprofitable prices, and higher as it rose. The men would now get 1s 3d at the present selling rate, which would give them exceedingly good wages.

Mr. Bowling concurred in the major portion of the judgment.

Mr. Forsyth, in his separate judgment, concurred in most of the conclusions, but strongly objected to the conclusion relating to the rate to be paid for shooting and filling, and the sliding scale attached thereto. The colliery employees in the northern district having for years past been well organised, had gained from proprietors who were not organised increases in rates and concessions in working conditions which were greater and better than either the nature of the colliery or the success of the industry warranted, and were today better than those prevailing in any other industry in the State, or any similar industry extensively carried on in any part of the world. The earnings of boys and youths in collieries were higher than in any other calling, advancement was quick and certain, and the occupation was one of the most permanent in the State. The fact that miners as a rule found work for their sons immediately they left school, at high rates of pay, had a most important bearing when considering wages. Coal as an essential to the industrial life of the community should be placed on the market at a price which would not hamper such industries. The rate that prevailed in the Teralba district when the commission began its work was is 1d a ton, and there was no sliding scale. The award gave an increase of 2d a ton on that rate, and he strongly dissented from such conclusion. It was a serious error if, in an open country, adopted conciliatory methods which were intended to be without prejudice to their rights, the things they did were to have weight in the final settlement of the dispute. Not only ought the proprietors not to be called upon to bear any extra burden, but on the evidence the condition of the industry demanded a substantial reduction even on the present shooting and filling rate. During the sitting of the commission colliery proprietors had been subjected to largely increased expenditure by reason of the award relating to engineers, Shore-drivers, firemen, and pumpers had a claim now pending, and an application was also pending for the appointment of a board for practically all classes of labour in and about collieries which were not in the Colliery Employees' Federation or the Shore-drivers' Union. Deputies had also formed a Union, and claims were being put forward were so numerous and so large that business men would have the greatest difficulty in carrying on their businesses profitably. A too high rate of pay or a too favorable condition might never undeserved, when once established, was used as an argument in support of other claims. He was apprehensive that serious injury to the coal trade and other industries would follow as a result of the increase in the shooting and filling rate. The effect of the retrospective payment and the delay in completing the work of the commission had the effect of giving the award a practical operation of two years instead of one in respect of the rate for shooting and filling. In his mind the result would operate very unjustly to the Teralba proprietors. A penny in the shilling was the only increase which could be justified by the evidence. The serious increases in the rates of wages would affect generally the whole of the industrial operations of the State. Employers of labour might well take alarm at what had been decided upon on the threshold of the new Industrial Court.

Respecting narrow work the basis upon which such payment should be made was compensation for increased cost of powder and fuse, and decreased output, and as such should be the subject of mutual agreement between the management and the men engaged in such narrow work, and was capable in every instance of accurate computation from results.

THE AWARD.

The decision and award of the Court were given in the Arbitration Court as follows:—

Cavilling and choosing of mates shall be allowed in coal mines in the Teralba district as follows:—(1) Not less than one week before the end of each quarter the mine manager at each mine shall supply the lodge secretary or check weighman with (1) number of places specified to be cavilled for, (2) number of parties which he requires, (3) number of men to be included in each party, and (4) number of places to be cavilled for. Such lists of places shall include all the special and ordinary working places (but open in the mine, with the exception of such as the mine manager wishes to reserve as spare places, of which not less than two shall be reserved in each district.

2. The men then engaged in shooting and filling at tonnage rates in the mine shall then form themselves into parties, so constituted as that (1) their whole number shall be included, and (2) there shall be in each party one miner for every shift who is qualified to act as collier's mate, and in whom the men have reason to believe the mine manager has confidence, and the men shall then supply a list of such parties and individual names in them to the manager.

3. If on consideration of the list the mine manager find that the composition of any of the parties is not to his mind entirely satisfactory from the point of view of the safe working of the mine, then he may notify his objection to the men, who must then reconstitute the party to meet his views.

4. If the men so wish, the scrutineers of the ballot may intervene and investigate his objections, if any, but the decision of the manager shall be final.

5. As to parties cavilled for special places the manager shall have the right to object to any party which in his opinion may be unsuitable. Such objection shall be made after the names have been supplied to the manager and before the cavil is drawn, but this provision is not to be taken to limit the general power of the manager to object at any time to whatever he considers dangerous.

6. The manager shall not, in objecting to the constitution of any party, do so from the point of view that the parties as formed will be unequal in the speed of cutting.

7. The cavil shall then be drawn. Where the special places are not in the general cavil, the special places shall be drawn first.

8. If work in special places be begun or resumed during any quarter, any party wishing to do so may apply to cavil for such places for the remainder of such quarter, subject to the same right to the manager to object, as is hereinbefore provided in clause 5, as to the quarterly cavil, and the cavil shall be drawn accordingly. If no party wishes to cavil, the place may be worked by any party in the quarter by any party which the manager may form; or, if no satisfactory party can be formed on shiftwork, the places which shall be left by any party unexpired in such cavil, may during the absence of such party be worked either by another party, or, if no other satisfactory party is available, on shiftwork. Should work in the special place be completed or stopped before the end of the quarter, the party working therein shall be entitled to return, and, if required to do so, shall return to its former place for the remainder of the quarter.

9. If on any party coming to the mine on any day it is found that none of the places cavilled by that party have been cut by the machines, such party shall be entitled to go, and, if required to do so, shall be directed by the under-manager or deputy, into a spare bord or place in that district (but has been cut and not worked since the cut, if there is any such special bord or place, and, if not, then such party shall be entitled to go, or shall go as directed by the under-manager or deputy, into any bord or place cut and not worked since the cut in the district, but which by reason of the absence or incompetence of the party which has cavilled, that place is not being worked that day, if there is any such bord or place, provided that if the bord or place to which such party goes is situated more than 50 yards from the nearest of the places of such party the tools shall be moved for them without delay into the spare or other bord or place; or, in default thereof, compensation shall be allowed for moving at the rate of one farthing per man for every minute lost through such default. If a party is to work in a spare bord or place, such party shall if possible be notified thereof when entering the district by notice on the blackboard or otherwise.

Machine Rates and Conditions.—The minimum rate per ton for shooting and filling after machines shall be, according to the following scale, regulated by the actual average selling price of the whole of the best screened, clean, marketable coal of the collieries in the district:—

Actual Selling Price per ton, of Best Screened Coal.	Rate for Shooting and Filling per ton of 2240lb of Coal filled in the gross.
s d	s d
5 6	0 10½
5 9	0 10½
6 0	0 11½
6 3	0 11½
6 6	1 0
6 9	1 0
7 0	1 0½
7 3	1 1½
7 6	1 1½
7 9	1 2½
8 0	1 2½
8 3	1 3
8 6	1 3
8 9	1 3½
9 0	1 3½
9 3	1 4
9 6	1 4½
9 9	1 4½
10 0	1 4½
10 3	1 4½
10 6	1 5

Where the ascertained selling rate does not exactly coincide with any of the rates in the column above, the rate in the column to which the actual selling rate most nearly approximates shall be taken to be the selling rate, on which the wage is to be paid.

Pillar work, in which the system called modified longwall in use at Rhondda shall be included, shall be paid 2d per ton less than the above rates.

These rates may be paid, half to the shooter for all he shoots and fills, and half to the fillers for all they fill, in which case the shooter shall be paid his own powder and shot, or, if men prefer it, the whole rate shall be paid to the party to be divided amongst them as they like.

2. In this clause the method of ascertaining the actual selling price by an accountant or other person appointed by sub-committees of the association and federation, or in the event of their disagreeing by his Honor Judge Heydon, was detailed.

3. Narrow Work.—For all narrow work not less than 12 feet and not more than 15 feet wide a variance rate of 2s 2d per yard shall be paid as compensation to the shooter if he finds the powder, or the party if they find it. If any narrow work less than 12 or more than 15 feet wide is started such wage rate shall be paid as shall be agreed upon between sub-committees of the association and the federation, or by an umpire selected by Judge Heydon.

4. Machine Men.—Minimum rates per day shall be paid to machine men on the following scale:—

Price of Coal.	Wage for Machine Men.	Wage for Assistant Machine Men.
6/	10/	8/6
6/3	10/1½	8/7½
6/6	10/3	8/9
6/9	10/4½	8/10½
7/	10/6	9/
7/3	10/7½	9/1½
7/6	10/9	9/3
7/9	10/10½	9/4½
8/	11/	9/6
8/3	11/1½	9/7½
8/6	11/3	9/9
8/9	11/4½	9/10½
9/	11/6	10/
9/3	11/7½	10/1½
9/6	11/9	10/3
9/9	11/10½	10/4½
10/	12/	10/6

Any workers on the machines in addition to the machine man and his assistant shall be paid at the rate prescribed for offhand workers.

Minimum Height of Seam.—As the Teralba seams have never gone above 6ft, we make no award as to minimum height of seam, but we direct that the present method of working the seam in regard to height shall continue until an alteration is duly authorised.

Machine Cutting-Up.—If the floor of the machine-cut rises more than 6in above the legal height at which the cut should start, above the floor of the seam, one farthing per ton of the coal in the cut shall be paid for each inch by which the cut rises above 6in. This shall not apply to inequalities in the floor, and the cuts so payable shall be divided equally between the working parties.

7. Wet Places.—Shooters, fillers, and machine-men shall be compensated for working in wet places, and whether any place is a wet place, and what amount of compensation shall be payable, shall be left to mutual agreement between the men concerned and the colliery manager.

8. Coupt Skips.—All coupt skips shall at once be marked "coupt" by the person in charge of them, who shall also report the occurrence to the flatter, or person to whom he delivers the skip at the time of delivery. Any skip so marked shall be considered as taken to be a coupt skip, unless otherwise ordered by the management, which may investigate the case, if it thinks proper, within 8 hours of the time of marking. If any complaint is made of a skip alleged to have been coupt, not being allowed at its proper weight, whether it has been marked or not, such complaint shall be made to the mine manager within 24 hours of the result within 24 hours of the complaint, otherwise full weight shall be allowed.

9. Slabs Used as Loads.—Where men shooting and filling after machines use slabs as caps, they shall receive the following payment as extra consideration: for slabs over 12ft long such amount as shall be agreed upon between the parties; for slabs not less than 6ft and not exceeding 9ft, and for slabs exceeding 9ft, and not exceeding 12ft, 6d per slab, and in addition, 1d for each foot by which the slab exceeds 6ft.

10. Italic Men engaged in shooting and filling after machines use slabs as caps, they shall receive the following payment as extra consideration: for slabs over 12ft long such amount as shall be agreed upon between the parties; for slabs not less than 6ft and not exceeding 9ft, and for slabs exceeding 9ft, and not exceeding 12ft, 6d per slab, and in addition, 1d for each foot by which the slab exceeds 6ft.

Italic Men.—Shooters, 6s 6d; Adzitts, Wheelers 6s 9d, water-ballers and hand-pumpers, 6s 3d; flatters 6s 6d, set-riders 6s 6d, trolleyway-men 6s 6d, road-layers 6s 2d, waggon packers 6s 3d, slack roadmen 6s 3d, barker-off 6s 6d, shotmen 6s 6d, shotmen's mates 6s 6d, shiftmen 9s, labourers not otherwise specified 6s 6d. As there are no bankmen, and no adzitt clippers on at Teralba collieries, no rate is provided for them.

Boys and Youths.—1. All except trappers to be subject to same conditions as for adults, but trappers' rate of 6s 6d per day shall be uniform whatever the selling price of the coal.—Trappers, 6s 6d; Adzitts, screen-boys, and waggon-packers, minimum 3s 4d, maximum 3s 3d; wheelers, minimum 3s 6d, maximum 4s 9d; water-ballers and hand-pumpers, minimum 3s 4d, maximum 3s 3d; clippers-on, minimum 3s 10d, maximum 3s 10d; flatters, minimum 3s 7d, maximum 3s 9d; bankers-off, minimum 3s 8d, maximum 3s 6d; labourers, minimum 3s 6d, maximum 3s 6d.

Filling and working in the slack road are not considered proper work for persons not adults (they are not included). No machine men are employed in the Teralba collieries shall have their present wages reduced.

Shifters.—2. The provision relating to shooters and fillers and machine-men working in wet places shall apply to shiftmen also.

Contract Wheelers.—3. No provisions are placed in this award as to contract wheelers, but if any parties wish to wheel by contract they may do so on such terms as the association and federation or parties may agree upon.

Aged or Infirm Workers.—4. Aged or infirm workers may be employed at rates below the minimum, under conditions of agreement between the association and federation.

Employees doing work of a different class.—Existing customs shall remain.

General.—5. Unless the continuance of this award the association or federation shall cease to exist, the proprietors of mines in the Teralba district, acting together, shall exercise the powers given to the association and the members of the Teralba district in this award and the powers given to the federation. If in any cases requiring agreement between the association and the federation either shall neglect or refuse to act, the other may act alone, and their action shall have the same force as if both parties had agreed thereto.

Disputes.—If any dispute shall arise under this award application shall be made to the Royal Commission on Coal-mining Disputes (Newcastle and Gunnedah districts), or, if it is not in existence, to Judge Heydon.

Time of Operation of Award.—This award shall come into operation on the first Monday after the first back Saturday in 1909.

Arrears.—The arrears payable to the shooters and fillers shall be paid, half within three weeks after the coming into operation of this award, and the other half within two weeks after that.

The other members of the Royal Commission agreed in making points with the Roya Award, one important exception being in respect of the rates for shooters and fillers, in which both were strongly in opposition. The judgment occupied 52 pages of typewritten foolscap, and the award 20 pages, and their delivery took up nearly two hours.

POLICE COURTS

ROBBING A SLEEPER.

David Marshall, 38, labourer, was charged yesterday at the Central Police Court with having stolen a watch, chain, and two pendants, the property of George Colebach, on December 29. Senior-constable Chatfield was in a tram going past Haymarket, at 11.30 a.m., when he saw the accused stoop over a sleeping man on the footway, near the Belmore markets, and take the articles from his pockets. He then arrested the accused, who stated that he was trying to wake the man up. Marshall had been previously convicted, and was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

UNJUST WEIGHTS.

Yesterday, at the Paddington Police Court, Charles Decorsall proceeded against Kate Elizabeth Higgs and Ching Lee for using unjust weights. The inspector stated that when he tested the weighing machine in the defendant Higgs's fruit and beef shop, in Oxford-street, Paddington, he found that it registered for short. Defendant explained the circumstances by saying that a boy had entered the shop, and hung his weight, 14lb, after she had cleaned it. Lee's case was fined 20s, with 6s costs, or in default seven days.

In the case of Ching Lee, a hawker, his spring balance was found to be 4 oz short. A fine of £4, with 6s costs, or in default one month was imposed.

SHOP-LIFTING.

Katherine Dale, 21, a married woman, was charged at the Water Police Court yesterday, before Mr. G. H. Smithers, S.M., with stealing three pairs of stockings, valued at 7/6, the property of Mrs. M'Cathie, Ltd., 189 Pitt-street, on December 23. The evidence for the prosecution was to the effect that on the day mentioned accused entered the premises, and asked to be shown some stockings at half a crown a pair. Those were shown to her, but were not of the kind she required, so she asked to be shown some finer make. Eventually accused purchased a pair. It was stated by a young saleswoman that when, after showing the accused the stockings, she was putting the packets away, she found some missing, whereupon she informed the head saleswoman. Other evidence was given to the effect that the stockings were found in the folds of accused's dress. Accused, who denied the theft, said that the articles must, in the crush, have fallen into her dress. She was fined £5, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment, the magistrate remarking that the practice of shop-lifting was becoming too common amongst respectable people, and must be stopped.

LIQUOR ON CHRISTMAS DAY.

At the Burwood Police Court, before Mr. M. S. Love, S.M., Phillip Rodman, licensee of the Five Dock Hotel, was convicted for permitting liquor to be consumed on his licensed premises on Christmas Day during forbidden hours. He was fined £1 and 6s costs. John Lanigan, for being found drinking liquor on the same date in the bar of a hotel during prohibited hours, was fined 4s and 6s costs.

O-CE-O-LO, the shampoo, is manufactured exclusively for the hair. 1s per jar.—Advt.

"A Casual Glance" in this week's "Sydney Mail" is, as usual, crisply written and humorously illustrated.—Advt.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT.

THE YEAR'S WORK.

AREA RESUMED, 284,239 ACRES.

EXPENDITURE, £1,000,000.

The Minister for Lands, Mr. Moore, has had a return prepared which shows that the total area resumed during the year was 284,239 acres, and the amount involved £1,000,000.

The advisory boards appointed in February inspected a large area of country, and furnished reports upon over 60 estates, 18 of which were covered by proclamations of intended acquisition. Parliament approved of the acquisition of the following:—

By resumption:—

Estate.	Area.	Value.
Peel River	100,000 acs.	£378,900*
Mungery (on approved railway Narromine-Peak Hill)	55,650 acs.	£110,573*
Coreen and Back Paddock (on approved railway, Lockhart's Clear Hills)	37,780 acs.	£128,772*
Brookong (part) (on approved railway, Lockhart-Clear Hills)	11,998 acs.	£34,488*
By purchase:—		
Sunny Ridge	12,083 acs.	£49,031
Walla Walla	50,180 acs.	£296,000
Boree Creek (on approved railway, Lockhart-Clear Hills)	17,000 acs.	£50,000

* Board's valuation.

In other cases action is still pending, final decisions as to acquisition not having been arrived at before Parliament prorogued. Peel River, Walla Walla, and Sunny Ridge have been vested in the Crown, and the subdivision into farms completed. Necessary action is being expedited in respect of Mungery, Coreen and Back Paddock, Boree Creek, and Brookong. Walla Walla has been subdivided into 113 farms, of which 107 will be available for selection on January 18. Sunny Ridge will be offered in 24 farms on February 25.

In the case of Peel River, as the Court has yet to determine the value, the date when the lands will be available cannot yet be definitely fixed. The original design contemplated 216 farms, but in order to meet the demand for suburban farms close to Tamworth about 20 small blocks, varying from 3 to 7 acres, are being provided, and a further area is being reserved for similar holdings if the demand warrants it. These holdings will be available for settlement on the same terms and conditions as the larger farms. The number of farms as now provided is 235.

The total number of settlers which will be provided for on the estates mentioned, the acquisition of which Parliament has approved, will be between 500 and 550.

SAWMILLERS' CONFERENCE.

EXPORTATION OF HARDWOODS.

QUESTION OF ROYALTIES.

LISMORE, Thursday.

The annual general meeting of the Northern Rivers Sawmillers' Association was held in the School of Arts, Mr. R. Maller, vice-president, being in the chair. Representatives were present from Coraki, Ballina, Rappville, Bongalow, Mullumbimby, Dunoon, Lismore. The report stated that the members now number 21. The proposed new rule sheet were adopted. The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. C. J. Loewenthal; treasurer, Mr. J. Bagot; committee, Messrs. A. Duncan, John Fay, E. Roach, J. Gray, J. Sexton, J. Snow, W. Yabsley, J. Murray; auditor, Mr. J. Fay. Mr. J. Irving, L. Harris, The Forestry Commission's report recommending increased royalties and limitation of export was discussed. It was pointed out that it would be a great hardship to the sawmilling industry, inasmuch as there was not sufficient timber left locally to consume all the ironbark, and if the royalties were increased the mills would be at a disadvantage, as far as the other States were concerned. Further, if export was limited for two years, as recommended by the commission, there would not be sufficient local demand, and the timber would be ringbarked and burnt by selectors, and then lost. After considerable discussion, it was resolved that the association notify the three members in the State Parliament representing the district that the association protests against the recommendation of the commission limiting the export of hardwood and raising the royalties on hardwood and softwood to the extent recommended, and to request them to use their best endeavours to have the views of the association explained when the question was discussed in the House. Considerable discussion also took place with regard to the importation of Baltic pine into Australia, it being alleged that the timber imported ostensibly for butter-boxes only, under specially favourable conditions, was being used for lining, shelving, furniture, and general building purposes, thus giving it the advantage with locally-grown timber upon which heavy royalties were being paid. It was resolved to write to the Federal members, asking them to write to the Minister for Customs, requesting him to take steps to prevent the possible evasion of the Customs duty in relation to the importation of New Zealand white pine.

BANKRUPTCY BUSINESS.

THE YEAR'S RECORD.

Mr. F. H. Salusbury, Registrar of the Bankruptcy Court, has had prepared a tabulated statement of the business done by the Court during the year, from which the following particulars are taken:—

Petitions presented by debtors, 258; by creditors, 84; by executors, 4; by administrator, 1; by attorneys, 7; under Crimes Act, 1; by manager, 1; total, 356.

Of the creditors' petitions 60 orders were made, 16 withdrawn, 7 dismissed, and 1 was not proceeded, leaving 280 petitions were made against 16 females. The total liabilities as disclosed by statements of affairs was £322,850, and the total assets £185,507, or a deficiency of £137,343.

The acts of bankruptcy were classified as follows:—Failure to comply with bankruptcy notices, 56; departing from dwelling-house, 1; giving notice of suspension of payment, 2; making assignment to trustees, 1; total, 60.

There were 174 certificate applications, of which 49 were granted, 1 conditionally granted, 5 refused, 85 suspended, 7 struck out, stood over generally, and 11 were still pending. The grounds of suspension or refusal of certificates were:—Failure to keep books, 58; insufficient assets to meet 20s in the £, or probable grounds of expectation of being able to pay them, 6; continuing to trade and obtaining credit after knowing himself to be insolvent, 1; failure to keep books, 58; contracting debts without reasonable or probable grounds of expectation of being able to pay them, 6; continuing to trade and obtaining credit after knowing himself to be insolvent, 1; failure to account satisfactorily for loss of property in the pound, 3; failure to disclose property acquired after sequestration, 1; giving undue preference, 1; guilty of misdemeanours, 1; putting creditor to unnecessary expense by vexatious defence to action properly brought against him, 1; guilty of rash and hazardous speculation, 4; obtaining credit by false representation, 1; giving bill shortly before sequestration, 1; omitting to comply with provisions of the Act, 1; endeavouring to conceal his position fraudulently, 1; breach of promise judgment, 1; total, 90.

The number of estates released was 38, and sequestration orders discharged, 6. Under the heading taxation of costs bills were brought in at £5067, and the amount taxed off was £756. The number of bankruptcy notices issued was 171, orders made to attach salaries or pensions 7, orders made varying orders 9, bankrupts still paying under orders made in previous years 46, warrants issued for apprehension 2, warrants of commitment 4, resolutions approved allowing bankrupt to retain furniture 2, rules nisi for attachment granted 4. The list of places where meetings were held included 62 cities and towns, Sydney leading with 149, and Newcastle being second with 15, and Cobar third with 13.

A statistical review of the occupations of bankrupts gave the following results:—Agents—Commission 2, cycle 1, estate 1, general 1, insurance 1, land 1, manufacturer's 1, news 1, shipping 1, stock and station 1; artist, 1; artist, 1; assistant (smallgoodsman), 1; auctioneer, 2; baker, 5; bicycle repairer, 1; blacksmith, 2; boilermaker, 1; bootmaker, 2, bricklayer, 1; brickmaker, 1; builder, 6; butcher, 4; butchery, 1; cabinetmaker, 1; canvasser, 1; carpenter, 6; carrier, 1; carter, 1; civil servant, 2; clerk, 5; clerk (wool), 1; confectioner, 1; contractor, 12; contractor (coal), 1; cook (pastry), 1; coppersmith, 1; dairyman, 3; dealer, 1; dealer (cattle), 1; dealer (produce), 1; dentist, 1; draftsman, 2; driver (engine), 3; drover, 1; engineer, 3; engineer (civil), 2; farmer, 17; farmer (dairy), 1; farrier, 1; fireman, 3; fitter (engine), 1; florist, 1; freeholder, 1; fruiterer, 2; gardener (market), 1; grazier, 4; grocer, 6; hairdresser, 1; hawker, 2; herbalist, 1; hotelkeeper, 18; importer, 1; ironmonger, 1; jeweller, 1; labourer, 50; labourer (Chinese), 1; labourer (farm), 1; lapidary, 1; laundress, 1; laundry proprietor, 1; law writer, 1; maintenance man, 1; manager (mine), 1; manufacturer, 1; manufacturer (cordial), 1; manufacturer (corset), 1; married woman, 2; mason (marble), 1; medical practitioner, 3; mercer, 1; merchant (hardware), 2; merchant (produce), 1; milk vendor, 2; milliner, 1; miner, 25; musical instrument vendor, 1; out of employment, 2; painter, 1; plumber, 3; printer (lithographic), 1; rabbit inspector, 1; refreshment-room proprietor, 1; restaurant proprietor, 1; saddler, 1; selector, 1; settler, 1; shipwright, 1; shopkeeper, 1; skin buyer, 1; slaughterman, 1; smelter (copper), 1; solicitor, 1; specialist, 2; stationmaster, 1; storekeeper, 19; tailor, 5; teacher (private school), 2; teacher (Public school), 1; teamster, 1; tin buyer, 1; tobacconist, 1; traveller, 1; traveller (commercial), 2; traveller (explosive), 1; undertaker, 1; underwriter (fire), 1; waiter, 1; warehouseman, 2; widow, 4.

There are 25 refreshing shampoos in a jar of O-CE-O-LO. Price, one shilling.—Advt.

THE BOXING CONTEST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Kindly allow me a little space in your valuable columns to give expression to my opinions re the boxing match. Already there has been an overwhelming amount of correspondence on the subject, but so far as I can judge from the various letters they mostly appear to be actuated by bias, either one way or the other. To say that it was a brutal contest is absurd. Neither man has received any punishment to speak of; and it is only to be expected that in a boxing match one or both of the combatants is sure to be more or less hurt, but considering that at most it could only last twenty rounds, and was under the supervision of the police, who have instructions to stop it at any time if they think it necessary, I do not think it was as bad as some people imagine. I think from the way the winner has been treated that the colour line is responsible for a lot. Again, some of your correspondents, in defence of boxing, attack football, and ask why the authorities do not stop that on account of its roughness. Now, I am not a football enthusiast, but I appreciate all true sport, and think that those who have a relish for any particular branch should be allowed to enjoy it. But there is this difference between football and boxing—in the former, true, men get hurt, and sometimes badly, but unless the rules are violated it is the result of accident, while in boxing it is deliberate. The one is trying all through to knock out the other, failing which it is of course decided on points: but until I cannot see that in the recent match there was anything sufficiently serious happened to warrant the authorities in stopping the sport. I am, etc.,

A. F. STENNING.

Dec. 31.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—I have read with a great amount of interest the letters from different people appearing in your columns the last few days, and I would like you to afford me a little space on the same subject.

The different views of the correspondents on this so-called prize-fight are somewhat amusing, and I might say some of them perfectly ridiculous. For my part I utterly fail to see where last Saturday's fight can be called a degrading spectacle. It was a perfectly fair, clean, and healthy sporting match, such as take place in different parts of the globe. For men trained to such perfection as the two principals in this fight were, a few blows such as this contest produced were none hit in any degree by them, as is evidenced by the fact of their continual appearance about the city ever since the day of battle. Blows with much more bitter feeling and much more force behind them are continually exchanged by men on the field of a football match, and they are by no means accidental blows. Followers of football in Sydney will, I am sure, agree with me in this. We have, times without number, seen men carried off the football field with broken limbs, etc, and who are unable to play again, some for ever, some for months and weeks. Yet nothing of this occurred at the Stadium on Saturday last. Do we want our young men to grow up unable to hold their own with their fellow men, or do we want them to grow up into a manly, enduring, hardy race, fit to enable them to come out victorious with the very best if pitted against them? One of the letters to your columns strike me as being much to the point. I refer to Doris Moore's letter in the "Herald" of 30-12-08, and J. A. Climes's letter in the "Herald" of to-day. The latter, I am glad to see, was a proper and fit answer to E. P. Simpson's letter yesterday's issue. Mr. Simpson was at both of the big fights lately, and I daresay would be one of the first to book his seat if another such contest were to take place.

I am, etc.,

Dec. 31. R. H. THOMAS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—The Stadium, having served the invaluable purpose of proving which man is most cunning, has the longest reach, and the strongest punch—I think those are the correct terms—I would suggest that it now be used for the equally valuable purpose of proving which male has the most cunning, the longest reach, and the strongest kick. We could then erect two statues, one to the man and the other to the mule, as our ideals of the highest types. That is the kind of thing which Rome did in the days of its decadence, and would be quite in keeping with our recent developments.

E. S. SMITHURST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—Before the boxing contest is properly consigned to the limbo of oblivion let me protest against the ignorant perversion of thought which confuses boxing with science. However absurd it may be, boxing is an art, not a science; therefore to associate science and things scientific with a low-down prize-fight is unworthy of the intelligence of Australians, and an idiotic misapplication of terms.

I am, etc.,

Dec. 31. WILLIAM M. HAMLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

Sir,—I have read some of the letters in your paper re the boxing contest, and as I believe in f

SPORTING.

THE TURF.

In connection with the New Year's festivities horseracing plays a very prominent part throughout Australasia, and this day's fixtures equal those of previous years. Tattersall's Club caters for Sydney sporting folk at Randwick, the V.R.C. provides an outing for Victorian sportsmen, the annual meeting of the Western Australian Turf Club will be brought to a close at Perth, the South Australian Jockey Club's summer reunion takes place at Morphettville, the second summer meeting of the Queensland Turf Club will be brought to a conclusion at Eagle Farm, and the Newcastle Jockey Club holds its New Year's fixture; while at most inland centres of population throughout Australasia the national pastime will be in vogue.

Crystal Brook and Call Boy out 1 the Flying Welter, Beeberu, Palm Olive, and Hayfield out of the Nursery Handicap, The Screw out of the Second Hurdle Race, Virtu out of the New Year's Gift, and King Hee out of all engagements, were the scratchings recorded yesterday in connection with the second day's meeting of Tattersall's Club annual meeting.

Owing to a majority of the horses in active work having raced on the previous day there was not much doing on the Randwick tan track yesterday morning. Karanaud got over six furlongs in 1m 26s, a distance over which H.C. beat Glade in 1m 29s. Rockliffe worked at three-quarter pace, and Exsul at half-pace, while Lord Cilaroy, Plunder, and several others spurted.

The scratchings recorded yesterday in connection with the Warwick Farm January meeting were:—Dryite out of the Holiday Handicap, and Golden Brown out of the Liverpool Mile.

The satisfactory total of 124 entries were received yesterday for the meeting of the Victoria Park Racing Club on the 6th inst. The divided race, the Zetland Plate and Purse, attracted 38 nominations, and the Hurdle Race 25.

Advices from Perth (W.A.) state that the local sportsman, Mr. A. E. Cockram, has secured, through his London agent, six fillies and two colts, who were to be shipped to Western Australia at once. It is Mr. Cockram's intention to lease them for racing purposes, and on their retirement from the turf they will form the nucleus of a stud, as it is understood that Mr. Cockram is going into the breeding business on a large scale.

V.R.C. SCRATCHINGS.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

The following scratchings were recorded today for the V.R.C. meeting:—

All engagements: Terry, Rogue's March, Lorenzo, and Ayr Lad.

Welter Handicap: Even Time.

Hurdle Race: Muthung.

Ragot Handicap: Mona.

Steeplechase: Mikado and Stariel.

Standish Handicap: Naturni.

TATTERSALL'S CLUB.

ANNUAL RACE MEETING.

SECOND (CUP) D Y.

Tattersall's Club annual race meeting will be brought to a close at Randwick this afternoon, and the programme to be discussed gives promise of highly interesting sport. The club has made ample preparations for the comfort and convenience of a holiday assemblage, and the customary transit arrangements include special services from Circular Quay, via Oxford-street, and from the Central Railway Station, via Cleveland-street.

The sport commences at 12.30 p.m. with the Second Hurdle Race, and the contest should be fought out by Minimum and English, who may pass the judge as named. Good race is promised for the Flying Welter among Black Mark, Leuron, Specimen, and Beam, and the numbers may be hoisted for Leuron, Black Mark, and Beam. Rose Ray, Oboe, Leuron, and Victoria Cross may fight out the finish for the New Year's Gift; and the situations may go to Oboe, Leuron, and Rose Ray. With a dozen remaining in Tattersall's Cup, an interesting contest may be anticipated. The penalty incurred by Welcome Trist places him in the position of top weight, and he should hold Pharos safely at a difference of 5lb. Lord Fitzroy, Florance, and Proportion are not attractive, but Karanaud should run a good race, as should Simnilequit. Exsul reads remarkably well with 10lb, and the 6lb less Malteur must have a say in the settlement of the important question. The brunt of the battle should fall to Welcome Trist, Karanaud, Exsul, and Malteur; and Exsul, Karanaud, and Welcome Trist may pass the judge in that order. Shaftesbury, Curry, Kuringai, Potosi, and Sequarious should have most to say towards the finish of the Nursery Handicap, and Potosi, Curry, and Sequarious may demand the attention of the judge as named; while the most likely to figure prominently towards the close of the race for the Welter Handicap are Plunder, Yabba Gabba, Blue Hook, and Trajectory, and the honours may be divided by Yabba Gabba, Plunder, and Blue Hook.

The programme is subjoined:—

SECOND HURDLE RACE.—About 2½m.

	st	lb		st	lb
Minister	10	0	English	9	8
Mainspring	9	8	Consolate	9	6

FLYING WELTER.—6f.

Lord Beauchamp	11	8	Brightie	8	13
Queen's Court	10	8	Fleetfoot	8	13
Black Mark	10	4	Flavour	8	13
Master Foote	10	0	Specimen	8	12
Borodino	9	13	Barley Water	8	12
Leuron	9	10	Hildebrook	8	12
Miss Malster	9	10	Banqua	8	9
Maltman	9	10	Sunday	8	7
Camera	9	9	Diplomatist	8	7
Rouble	9	6	Beam	8	7
Confetti	9	5	Shimose	8	7
Marke	9	0	Toorumba	8	7
Kahibunkka	9	0	Rosa Ray	8	7
Loch Merv	8	13	Emerald Isle	8	7
Metal King	8	13			

NEW YEAR GIFT.—1m.

Welcome Trist	9	5	Miss Malster	7	7
Lord Beauchamp	9	3	Morella	7	6
Rose-Ray	9	3	Luciana	7	0
Lady Reunalt	8	12	King Berry	7	2
War Bee	8	10	Hela	7	0
Oboe	8	7	Royal Blue	7	0
Epois	8	6	Donnaid	6	10
Wee Laddie	7	12	Banquo	6	10
Miss Rose	7	10	Dean	6	10
Coppertop	7	9	Ballastrae	6	4
Leuron	7	8	Saki	6	4
VictoriaCross	7	8			

TATTERSALL'S CLUB CUP.—2m.

Pharos	8	11	Simnilequit	7	8
Welcome Trist	8	7	Drma	6	12
Lord Fitzroy	8	5	Exsul	6	10
Florance	7	13	Trentmoon	6	10
Proposion	7	13	Rockliffe	6	7
Karanaud	7	8	Malteur	6	7

NURSERY HANDICAP.—5f.

Lady San	9	8	Helvotrope	7	6
Apple Pie	9	7	Criss Cross	7	5
Shaftesbury	9	5	Crown Derby	7	5
Curry	9	0	By Play	7	5
Bucre	8	12	Malister's Daughter	7	5
Maltchester	8	4	Terala	7	3
Kuringai	7	13	Golden City	7	0
Grist	7	13	Patronatus	7	0
Potosi	7	13	Miss Loma	7	0
Graveloite	7	8	Mid East	7	0
Sequarious	7	8	Kilfie	6	10
San Pedro	7	7	Scotch Pie	6	9
Nadir	7	7	Strathdoun	6	7
Malt King	7	6	Brig-o'-Doon	6	7
Maltha	7	6	Doon Lassie	6	7
Fairy Gold	7	5			

WELTER HANDICAP.—1m.

Neith	12	0	Contango	8	0
Rose Ray	10	6	Hermes	7	12
Lady Wilde	10	0	Specimen	7	12
War Bee	10	0	Adriatic	7	12
Plunder	9	9	Hildebrook	7	10
Florance	9	8	H.C.	7	10
Yabba Gabba	9	5	Rayner	7	9
Malfeur	9	3	Hoot	7	7
Belfry	9	3	Status	7	7
Guarantee	9	0	Carl Zeno	7	7
Myra Bluan	9	0	Blue Garments	7	7
Rhoebus	9	0	Antium	7	7
Throst	8	10	Ubgurie	7	7
Lucians	8	5	Pinfall	7	7
Blue Hook	8	1	Martagon Crosse	7	7
Trajectory	8	1			

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN SPORTING NOTES.

PERTH (W.A.), Thursday.

Mr. T. A. Connolly complained to the stewards yesterday that Frank Bullock had used abusive language towards him. Bullock was fined £5. It is understood that Bullock resented Mr. Connolly's choosing another horseman to ride Thorina in the All Aged Stakes. Mr. Connolly gave Sutherland winning mounts in the Perth Cup and Railway Stakes, although Bullock's mounts started favourite in each event.

WALLSEND JOCKEY CLUB.

CHRISTMAS MEETING CONCLUDED.

WALLSEND, Thursday.

The Wallsend Jockey Club's Christmas meeting was concluded yesterday. The weather was sultry, but this did not militate against the attendance, which was good. Results:—

Platibury Handicap of 50 sovs; second 7 sovs; and third three sovs.—Mr. G. Simmon's b r Bass, by Diplomat—Gold Grit. 4yrs, 8st 2lb (Simmons), 1; Mr. T. Mullin's b m Hexham, 6yrs, 8st 2lb (Goddard), 2; Mr. W. Richmond's br h Ismalia, 5yrs, 10st (Byrne), 3. Other starters: Blue Foam, 9st 10lb; First Consul, 8st 2lb; Nevill, 8st 5lb; Alice Court, 8st 2lb; Morella, 8st 2lb; Miracle, 8st 2lb. Betting: 5 to 2 v Miracle, 3 to 1 v Morella, 4 to 1 v Nevill, 6 to 1 each v Alice Court and Suez, 7 to 1 v Hexham. Won by three lengths. Time, 1m 30½s.

Maryland Handicap of 40 sovs, second horse 7 sovs, third 3 sovs; 6f.—Mr. T. Sinton's b m Virginian, by Amberite—Virginia, 3yrs, 8st 8lb (Johns), 1; Mr. T. Judge's c g Rise Merv, 5yrs, 7st 7lb (Mitten), 2; Mr. H. Toomey's g g Fits Merv, 5yrs, 8st 5lb (Gilmore), 3. Other starters: Lady Ascot, 9st 3lb; Isla, 8st 5lb; Antelope, 9st 5lb; Glos, 9st; Stars and Stripes, 8st 5lb; Medic, 8st 5lb; Alsma, 6st 7lb. Betting: 8 to 1 v Virginian, 4 to 1 each v Lady Ascot, Antelope, Glos, 7 to 1 v Stars and Stripes, 10 to 1 each v the others. Won by half a length. Time, 1m 18s.

Pace Welter Handicap of 50 sovs, second horse 7 sovs, third three sovs; 1f.—Mr. R. Simmons' b r Essaffette, by Diplomat—Nora, 4yrs, 8st 12lb (Simmons), 1; Mr. F. M'Carthy junior's b m Lady Inquiem, 5yrs, 8st 9lb (M'Carthy), 2; Mr. C. Mayo's br c Arch, aged, 8st 7lb (Wood), 3. Other starters: Holbein, 8st 12lb; Isla, 8st 7lb; Lady Loch, 8st 7lb. Betting: 5 to 4 v Isla, 2 to 1 v Essaffette, 6 to 1 each v Lady Hayden and Lady Loch, 10 to 1 v Arch. Won by a length. Time, 1m 16s.

Jocsey Club Handicap of 40 sovs, second horse 10 sovs, third 5 sovs, 1½m.—Mr. N. Thompson's br h Brandenburg, by Brakpan—Helene, 4yrs, 8st 7lb (Gillmore), 1; Mr. J. P. Nolan's br c The Climax, 3yrs, 8st 9lb (Johns), and Mr. P. Cohen's br m Dornaid, 5yrs, 7st 7lb (Knox) tied for second place. Other starters: Miss Charge, 8st 7lb; True Colours, 8s. 5lb; Chaperon, 7st 3lb; Point Piper, 6st 10lb; Saidy, 6st 7lb. Betting: 5 to 2 v Brackenberg, 3 to 1 v The Climax, 4 to 1 v Miss Charge, 7 to 1 v Chaperon, 10 to 1 each v Dornaid and True Colours, 12 to 1 v Point Piper. Won by a length. Time, 2m 9½s.

Novice Handicap of 30 sovs, second horse 5 sovs, 6f.—Mr. T. Ford's c m Merveen, by Merv—Eileen, 6yrs, 7st 9lb (Byron), 1; Mr. R. Maddison's br m Troon, 3yrs, 7st 7lb (Bourke), 2; Mr. B. Haydon's br c Billycan, 3yrs, 7st 7lb (Woods), 3. Other starters: Dorquilla, 8st 5lb; Merton Queen, 8st 3lb; Brideaman, 8st; Ontario, 7st 10lb; Frome, 7st 7lb; After Eleven, 7st 7lb; Plum, 7st 7lb; Finisteren, 7st 7lb. Betting: Even money v Merveen, 5 to 1 each v Merton Queen, Dorquilla, and Brideaman, 10 to 20 to 1 each v the others. Won by two lengths. Time, 1m 20½s.

Final Handicap of 50 sovs, 1m.—Mr. C. Mayo's br g Arch, by Archie—Titania, aged, 8st 7lb (Wood), 1; Mr. A. Gribble's g g Attention, 4yrs, 8st 5lb (M'Carthy), 2; Mr. P. Kelly's b m Morella, 5yrs (Byron), 3. Other starters: Blue Foam, 9st 9lb; First Consul, 9st 9lb; Mantonia, 8st 5lb; Dormaid, 7st 9lb; Lady Ascot, 7st 5lb; Australian Sun, 7st 2lb; Lochnagh, 6st 10lb; Lady Hayden, 7st 7lb; Alsma, 7st 7lb. Betting: 2 to 1 each v Mantonia and Attention, 5 to 1 v Morella, 8 to 1 v Dormaid, 10 to 1 each v the others. Won by a length. Time, 1m 45s.

MOULAMEIN RACES.

MOULAMEIN, Thursday.

The Moulamein races were held on Boxing Day, when there was a record attendance. Results:—

Trial Stakes, 6f.—Fireworks 1; Merry Boy, 2. Four starters. Betting: 2 to 1 on the winner.

Welter Race, 7f.—Attention, 1; Alcimede, 2. Six starters. Betting: 4 to 1 on the winner.

Christmas Handicap, 1½m.—Dreamland, 1; Mystery, 2. Betting: 5 to 1 on the winner.

Hack Race, 6f.—Evaston, 1; Ella Nicholson, 2. Eight starters. Betting: 2 to 1 on the winner.

Flying Handicap, 6f.—Dreamland, 1; Paris, 2. Seven starters. Betting: 6 to 1 on the winner.

Consolation Stakes, 7f.—Mystery, 1; Alcimede, 2. Five starters. Betting: 3 to 1 on the winner.

KIANDRA ANNUAL RACES.

COOMA, Thursday.

The Kiandra annual races resulted successfully as under:—

Opening Handicap: Georgina, 1; Nitro, 2.

Ranch Handicap: Air Gun, 1; Cadfield, 2.

Hack Race: First Charge, 1; Nitro, 2.

Ladies' Bracelet: Little Joe, 1.

Flying Handicap: First Charge, 1; Georgina, 2.

Handicap Trot: Midge, 1.

BEMBOKA JOCKEY CLUB.

BEGA, Thursday.

Following are the nominations for the Bemboka Jockey Club's annual races to be held on January 9.

Opening Handicap, 6f.—Simonides, Mirroural, Stitch-in-time, Steslaway, Astrolaor, What-a-lark, Asia, Sunlight, Nettle, Camal King, Smoodger, Graceful, Ethos.

Bemboka Handicap, 1m.—Simonides, Icicle, Stitch-in-time, Alastair, Saladin, Asia, Aimee, Carnal King, Graceful.

Flying Handicap, 7f.—Simonides, Mirroural, Icicle, Stitch-in-time, Alistair, What-a-lark, Asia, Aimee, Graceful.

BEGA DISTRICT JOCKEY CLUB.

BEGA, Thursday.

The following handicaps have been issued for the minor events to be decided on the first day of the Bega District Jockey Club's annual race meeting:—

Opening Handicap, 6f.—Stitch-in-time, 1st 7lb; Alastair, 9st; Mirroural, 8st 4lb; Icicle, 8st; Gaoline, 7st 12lb; Don't Forget, 7st 7lb; Saladin, 7st 6lb; Retford Green, 7st 3lb; Aimee, 7st.

Trial Handicap, 6f.—Don't Forget, 9st 5lb; Steslaway, 8st 5lb; What-a-lark, 7st 7lb; Graceful, 7st 7lb.

Flying Welter, 7f.—Stitch-in-time, 10st; Wonga, 9st 12lb; Jacobite, 9st 6lb; Asia, 9st 6lb; Straide, 8st 12lb; Icicle, 8st 7lb; Wood Queen, 8st 3lb; Saladin, 7st 13lb; Retford Green, 7st 10lb; Aimee, 7st 7lb.

GOLF.

The engagements for to-day and to-morrow are:—Australian G.C.—Morning, medal; afternoon, bogey. Marrickville G.C.—To-day—Morning, teams match; afternoon, bogey competition. To-morrow: Handicap stroke competition, for trophy presented by Mr. H. D. McCallum.

Dobroyde G.C.—To-day: Final Christmas gift. To-morrow: Monthly medal.

Killara G.C.—To-day: Morning, bogey; afternoon, foursomes stroke. To-morrow: Morning, bogey; afternoon, teams match.

Concord G.C.—Continuous stroke competition.

Parramatta G.C.—This afternoon, stroke competition. To-morrow afternoon, bogey competition.

SOUTHERN AND SOUTH COAST CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING.

MOSS VALE, Thursday.

The Southern and South Coast districts' amateur championship meeting was continued to-day, the event being a match, metropolitan against Southern and South Coast districts. The result was a win for the Metropolitan team.

	Southern and S. C.	M.H.		M.H.
C. A. White	1	1	v W. Stevenson	0 1
R. F. Reading	1	4	v A. H. Garraway	0 0
A. W. Campbell	1	2	v A. B. Johnson	0 0
M. B. Halligan	0	1	v L. R. Gale	1 0
S. E. Laidley	1	3	v Rev. Wm. Fisher	1 0
R. D. Fitzgerald	0	0	v R. Gale	1 5
Langer Owen	0	0	v J. R. Scroggie	1 2
Captain Wilson, square	0	1	v Dr. Stevenson	0 1
F. Alderson	1	2	v E. D. Rutledge	0 0
Totals	5	13	Totals	5 14

CRICKET.

INTERSTATE JUNIORS.

NEW SOUTH WALES v SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

For this match, to be played to-day and to-morrow at the Sports Ground, the teams are:—

South Australia.—J. Ardill, C. Backman, J. Bennett, I. F. Broadfoot, E. M. Collins, L. Defbridge, B. Jack (captain), W. O. Haslam, D. Rosevear, J. D. Stephenson, G. Stock, F. Parr (emergency).

New South Wales.—A. Storey (captain), F. Willis (Belmain and District), F. Edwards, H. Jones, H. Davis (Centennial Park), L. Morris, G. Holley (Moore Park), A. Vincent, H. Lawler, S. Shea (Centennial Park Association), H. Wright (St. George). Reserves: J. Hodgson (batsman), H. Shipway (bowler).

BOWLS

AN INTERESTING MATCH.

A match is to be played to-day at the Waverley Oval between the local players and an Adelaide team which has attached to it more than ordinary interest, because it has connected with it an incident bearing to some extent on the origin of the South Australian Association. In 1900 a team from Waverley visited Adelaide. The game was then practically in its infancy in South Australia, there being only one club, better known as the "Victoria Drive." Mr. Clarence Moody was the moving spirit in Adelaide, and personally conducted arrangements on behalf of the South Australian players. The visit of the Waverley team gave increased interest to the game, and at the present time the South Australian Bowls Association, which was formed as a result of the Waverley's visit, has some 12 or 14 clubs associated with it. At the time of the visit Mr. Stevenson undertook to entertain competitors a loving cup for competition between Adelaide and Waverley, one rink each, to be held by the winning team until defeated. On the last visit to Sydney the Adelaide quartette managed to secure possession of the cup, and this morning at 10.15 on the Waverley green, a full rink from Waverley will attempt to regain possession. The team selected to take part in this contest are as under:—

Adelaide: Rowley, Bower, Hodgett, Moody (skipper).

Waverley: Pullwood, Morrison, Evans, Wahlberg (skipper).

VICTORIA DEFEATS SOUTHERN TASMANIA.

HOBART, Thursday.

The Victorian bowlers were accorded a civic reception to-day by the Acting Mayor of Hobart. In the afternoon they met, and defeated a southern Tasmanian team by 18. Scores: Victoria, 96; Southern Tasmania, 80.

SPORTS AT MACLEAN.

MACLEAN, Thursday.

A three-days' sports carnival, under the auspices of the Lower Clarence Caledonian Society, was commenced on the Maclean Showground to-day. Results:—100yds footrace: James Hough, 1; Frank Dwyer, 2. Mile bicycle race: W. Hann, 1; D. Matheson, 2. Half-mile bicycle race: Ed. Robertson, 1; G. Cramp, 2. Maiden hunters' jump: T. Hinchey's Ena, 1; F. M'Mahon's Blue Bell, 2. Galloway hunters: C. Gilbert's Bob, 1; Cosgrove's Tippo, 2.

SWIMMING.

ROSE BAY CLUB.

The following handicaps have been declared for the Rose Bay Club's 100 yards relay handicap, to be decided on Saturday afternoon:—N. Michael, scr; T. Sinclair, J. Northcott, H. Welland, 3s; P. Martin, L. Eglese, T. Kelly, C. Jackelson, 5s; G. Von Hammer, J. Haigh, W. Paton, D. Peall, 6s; L. Roach, W. Manahan, C. Northcote, A. Murray, 6s; S. Owens, M. O'Brien, W. H. Moore, W. Sussmann, 7s; G. M'Gill, M. M'Farlane, J. Hogan, E. Beard, W. Lithgow, J. Stevenson, A. Barclay, R. Gray, 8s; R. Osborne, 10s; M. M'Donald, M. Kennedy, 11s; R. Dickenson, 13s; J. Jowett, J. Harler, J. Jamieson, 18s. Other handicaps will be issued at the post. Certificates will also be presented.

BILLIARDS.

OATLEY SCHOOL OF ARTS TOURNAMENT.

The following is the draw for the Oatley School of Arts Summer Tournament:—A. J. Hunter (owes 40) v H. Freeman (owes 30), H. Trevitt (owes 20) v E. Mills (owes 25), E. Weller (owes 25) v A. Derwent (20), F. Hart (owes 30) v C. H. Hunter (20), H. A. Judd (20) v C. Bennett (owes 50), A. Phillips (20) v H. Ward (owes 30), J. Wilson (20) v T. Thompson (15), H. Towers (scr) v H. Lean (owes 10). A. Francis (owes 60), a bye. In this round Trevitt beat Mills by 55, Weller beat Derwent by 15, C. H. Hunter beat Hart by 60, Lean beat Towers by 20. Games are 100 up.

Some of the Bervian proverbs are interesting. One is, "What is taken by force or unman is cursed." Others are as follows:—"God does not settle his accounts with men every Saturday, but the day comes on which He settles them;" "The Devil never sleeps;" "Where big bells ring, the little bells are not heard;" "Boast to a stranger, complain only to a friend;" "If you wish to know what a man is, place him in authority;" "Who readily lies readily steals;" and "In evil days the man shows what he is." Another of their sayings "The fools build the houses, the wise men buy them when they are ready," would probably in England be reversed.

AUSTRALIAN RUGBY TOUR

THE WALLABIES IN ENGLAND.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

MATCH AGAINST YORKSHIRE.

LONDON, Nov. 27.

At Wakefield last Saturday the Australians found themselves set against one of the strongest forward teams they have yet encountered. There was a time, before the Northern Union split, when the Yorkshire forwards used to sweep irresistibly through England, and the recent game showed the county men to have by no means lost all their prowess in that respect. Time and again they hurled the Wallabies back upon their last line of defence, and there was many an occasion during the game when 50,000 looking on hailed with delight an old-time Yorkshire dribbling rush of the first quality. The Australian defence proved sufficient, however, and as the Yorkshire back division never once looked like giving the forwards adequate support, the county's chances of scoring were soon seen to be small.

The Wallabies proved in good form, and when, as usual, some 20 minutes after the start, the ball began to come out suitably, the Prentice combination and the speedy three-quarters made short work of the opposition. The score, notwithstanding the play, was always interesting, and by no means one-sided.

The first points were gained some 25 minutes after the start. A good bout of passing by the three-quarters ended near the line, and after some scrums Burge struggled across. The Wallabies continued to attack, and from well-sustained passing efforts Russell and Bede Smith both got over. Russell crossed a second time, a little later on, but unfortunately he ran beyond the dead ball line. Carmichael converted the second of the three tries, and at half-time the score was 11-0.

Early in the second half Carroll got one of his remarkably few opportunities, and taking a good pass swept round the defence, and scored. Russell and M'Kivatt added further tries, after excellent bouts of passing, which completely beat Yorkshire, and Carmichael goaling twice, the no-side whistle found us easy winners by 24 points to nothing.

AUSTRALIANS v LANCASHIRE.

Played at Manchester, November 26. With Richards, Row, and Hickey absent from the side, Australians cannot be regarded as at full strength, to say nil of various other absentees. However, they managed to hold the sturdy Lancashire side, and win by 12 points to 6. The opposing forwards were a fine lot, and more than once had the Wallaby backs in difficulties by means of superior footwork.

Ten minutes from the start, after quite eventful play, Russell got across near the wing, 3-0. On resumption Lancashire forced the game, and looked like scoring on several occasions. Australians then attacked, and a skilful move, in which M'Kivatt, M'Cabe, Dix, and Burge were prominent, led to an easy try by Daly. No goal. 6 to 0. Again Lancashire attached with a grand dribbling rush, and Australia was obliged to force. Another rush by the dashing forwards, and after a scramble on our line a try was awarded to Lancashire. There was some little doubt about it, but the referee thought otherwise. Half-time.

The second spell opened with another Lancashire rush, and it ended with a score in the corner. The game stood at six all. Exciting play continued until within ten minutes of time, when M'Cabe fairly astonished the opposition by putting two tries in quick succession, each of them the result of clever feinting runs, which beat the defence completely. No goals were kicked throughout, and, as stated, the final scores were 12-6.

The Rugby Union notified to-day the suspension of S. A. Middleton as a result of the regrettable incident at Oxford. Considerable soreness is felt by the team over the matter, and it is increased by the comments of a section of the press on the Wallaby game. Generally, most of it is grossly unfair. Dr. Moran has replied to some of the "criticism" this week in London daily papers, but it goes on nevertheless.

AUSTRALIA v SOMERSET.

PLAYED AT TAUNTON NOVEMBER 28.

LONDON, Dec. 4 (via Premantle).

The Wallabies gained the eighteenth victory of their tour on Saturday last at Taunton, when they defeated a strong Somerset side by 8 points to nil. If advantage had been taken of many opportunities offered the Australians, the scores would have been considerably larger, but the backs had an off day, and good chances were repeatedly spoilt by mishandling. Mandible had his first game since the Gloucester match, and Moran felt sufficiently well to rejoin the forwards. The game will doubtless do Mandible a lot of good as a preliminary to the last of the big fixtures immediately ahead. On Saturday he made some admirable runs, but the back division was not the machine it can be. Perhaps he did not fit into the scheme all at once. Moran played a great game, and the forwards generally were very keen and effective despite the gruelling they had to submit to at the hands of the stalwarts of the cider county. We were all quite relieved at the end to hear the referee's opinion of the game. So far from agreeing with the hostile ones, he stated candidly that he had never seen cleaner football.

It was a hard game, played in the roughest fashion. Bumps were frequent, both sides attacking with vim and determination. As usual, the English forwards kept the ball at their feet in the loose much more than the Australians, and their fine dribbling rushes often looked dangerous. In heeling out the Wallabies were superior. Both back divisions lacked cohesion, and mistakes were frequent. The first half of the game was confined almost entirely to Somerset territory, but time after time the Wallabies' passing operations were frustrated by mishandling. Occasionally the Somerset forwards would sweep down the field, ball at toe, but Carmichael's touch kicking invariably sent them back. At last a passing rush was successfully manoeuvred, and Russell finding himself blocked on the wing, in-passed to M'Kivatt, who scored. Carmichael somehow missed an easy goal. In the second half Mandible put in a fine run early in the game, and passed out to Carroll, who scored. Carmichael goaled, and the total was 8. Where it remained to the end, despite keen forward play by Somerset, a brilliant individual run by Whitworth, and a fine opportunist effort by Moran, who caught one-handed a cross-punt by Mandible, and nearly got away. The game continued exciting to the end, and finished all out. Altogether a very interesting match, which, however, we should have won by a bigger margin.

AUSTRALIANS v MIDLANDS AND EAST MIDLANDS.

PLAYED AT LEICESTER, DECEMBER 2.

UNEXPECTED REVERSE.

The Wallabies fell upon disaster at Leicester on Wednesday last. The side set against them was made up of representatives of three crack clubs in the Midlands, and on the performances of Leicester club alone it had been increasingly apparent that the game would be one of the hardest to win. Leicester has beaten this season Swansea, Newport, and Llanelly, first-class Welsh sides, one of them until now the solitary conqueror of the Wallabies; and the best men of Leicester were reinforced on Wednesday by some brilliant attackers from Bedford and Northampton. The fact that all this was common knowledge makes it hard to understand the selection of the Australian sides for this occasion. Moran was given a spell from the forwards, and Russell was absent from his accustomed wing. That was loss enough, but it was nothing to the substitution of W. Wood for M'Kivatt behind the scrum, which, among other things, carried with it the exclusion of M'Cabe, because M'Kivatt went back to five-eighths. Wood had not played for weeks, and could not be in anything like his best form. Why he should have been experimented with against such a side remains a mystery. Of course, the selectors have a difficulty in keeping their best men fresh, and they evidently had their eye on the big games before them in the next few weeks. But they certainly miscalculated the strength of the Mids. The mistake of playing Wood especially was obvious from the start. Although he got the ball eight times, often from the scrummage, he was hopelessly slow in getting rid of it, and the speedy Mids. smothered the attack time after time. Bede Smith was hurt early in the game, and retired to the wing. He was not at anything like his accustomed value to the defence after that. Carmichael, too, had a day off, and, to our dismay, missed three consecutive penalty shots for the goal from a fairly easy position. The side generally was off its game, and rarely got properly going.

When all is said for the Wallabies, however, it has to be admitted that their opponents played beautiful football, and thoroughly deserved their victory. Their forwards were especially good in the loose, and two of the three-quarters were so brilliant in attack as to make backs of our men more than once. The whole side combined admirably; the pack broke up quickly, and became either a strong attacking body or a resolute defending one. The tackling defied many desperate assaults. It was by far the best side I have seen out against the Australians.

Within six minutes of opening we had a taste of the Midland quality. Secured from a scrum, the ball was passed out rapidly, and Mobbs, on the wing, was seen sprinting brilliantly for our line. Tackled 10 yards out, he passed into the centre, and they were three points up immediately, amidst tremendous enthusiasm from the 70,000 present. The game continued interesting, and all over the ground. It soon became obvious that Wood was too slow for the opposition, and the clever heeling of our forwards was consequently of no avail. Carmichael had his place-kicks at goal without success. At half found us three points to the bad. Shortly after reopening a hard and very fast three-quarter run round the defence and scored, and Coupler kicking a goal the scores became 8 all. The Wallabies now got a little more vim into the game, Richards, following up a high punt, bustled the fullback, and in the resultant scramble Burge picked up and got across. Carmichael scored, and the score was 8-6. The Wallabies continued to press, but could not get through; and after a Midlands rush a penalty was awarded in our 25. Cooper kicked a goal, 11-8. Another goal resulted to Somerset, and time was called shortly afterwards, with the scores at 16-8. Our run of victories has thus come to an abrupt end, and it is the more exasperating because among the reserve men looking on were some who may have made all the difference to the game. However, the Wallabies took their reverse in good spirit, and were agreed that the excellence of the opposition deserved a win. The Midlanders have achieved the record of being the first English side to beat a touring colonial fifteen. The All Blacks lost only to Wales, and the South Africans won every game except one in Wales and one in Scotland.

"WALLABIES" AND THEIR CRITICS.

The following is the article by Dr. Moran referred to by our correspondent:—

"The criticisms which have been passed upon the team which I have the honour to captain has become so general as to demand a reply. And in so doing one does not attempt to justify those particular incidents that must and do occur in the heat of every game, and for which the active participants are, as a rule, most genuinely sorry. But public attention has been focussed on us by the criticism of men who, sitting in the pavilion, split hairs about a game which we are playing and they are spectating. We have unconsciously sought out these common and everyday incidents with which to substantiate an opinion which had previously existed half-formed in his mind.

"For example, in the Cambridge match, when one of our players illegally held a man in the open, there was a shout of protest from the crowd. Yet when Cambridge played Blackheath the previous Saturday, and a similar breach was committed by a Cambridge back, no one cried out 'Play the game,' and the incident was quite rightly forgotten. The fact that we have been penalised so frequently has supplied some food for comment. It is immediately argued by those who can see no illegality that there must have been some dirty trick or some unsportsmanlike scheme. So here again they assume a trait, and prove it by the assumption.

PICKING UP IN THE LOOSE.

"Let us refer to the gentlemen who, above all others, are justified in passing an opinion—those who have refereed. It will be found that Mr. Jones gave half his penalties against us at Oxford because of our picking up in the loose scrums. Now, herein lies a little difference between the reading of rules here and in our own country. We are taught, like the South Africans, that dribbling on hard grounds is a difficult matter, so our forwards continually pick up in the loose. We are penalised for our practice of picking up in loose rucks as we were penalised on Wednesday last, and according to our rules we were right. But we were playing on English soil, under an English referee, and so Mr. Jones correctly penalised us.

"There was nothing unsportsmanlike in the act; it was our misfortune that it has been brought about the same penalty as is given against a more unsporting one. In a similar way our back-row forwards came in for some abuse during the first match. Custom has legalised at home the swinging out of the back row to protect the half, provided he remains attached to the scrum. It is no particular vice, but a plan of defence adopted openly by all our clubs. Your referees disapproved of it, and we have accepted it from our hosts. We never once played, nor do we approve of playing, a 'winger.'

"We have been penalised for 'foot-up' in the scrum. It will be admitted that our success in obtaining possession has been fairly pronounced. That success is due in part to our compact and well-balanced scrum formation, with no shirkers; and in part also to the cleverness of specialists in the front-row position. These latter are very quick-eyed, and if sometimes they are penalised, it is not because they intentionally commit a sin against the spirit of football than is an ordinary knock-on. Ingenious minds none the less have suggested the use of mechanical contrivances. I say emphatically that I have never seen them.

THE SERVICE OPINION.

"What do the referees think of us? After our first match in Devon, Mr. Williams, whose opinion is worth much, informed me it was a pleasure to referee for a team that played so fairly. Mr. Schofield (of the Welsh Rugby Union) was quite satisfied with our methods in the Gloucester game, and again Glamorgan we had Mr. Jones, and after the match he pointed out to me the obstruction at the base of the scrum. He has officiated in Australia, and is one of the best referees in the kingdom, and yet, if you inquire, you will find we have had him four times in all, and have asked for him on other occasions.

"At Neath Mr. Jones said to me, 'I can find absolutely nothing wrong with your methods; they are above suspicion.' Mr. Potter Irwin's opinion of our play against the United Service at Portsmouth pressed us close, and at one time led by three points. Surely if there are inherent bad traits, such an occasion should bring them forth. Yet their captain and men were delighted with the struggle, and Dr. Grote, the Scottish International, who played half for them, came to see us off in the train to express his admiration. 'I have never played against a more sporting side,' he said in his own emphatic way.

"This Rugby game is a strenuous struggle between physical giants, and we must not refer to gentle Indians for our methods. Our opponents try to make us out a set of ruffians. Our sisters always did think it rough when that horrid man upset us so rudely in the days when they came to watch us at Cambridge. We have always been hard-set on the match at Oxford—and has no doubt earned the disapproval of men who have never played. The player, however, who objects to a rough game should keep aside, but leave it to become moth-eaten in disuse. For him there are other games, and, I believe, the newest is diabolo."

NEW STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE.

MR. KING CONGRATULATED.

Upon taking his seat upon the Bench at the Redfern Police Court yesterday, Mr. John L. King, who has been acting stipendiary magistrate for some time, received the congratulations of the legal profession and the police upon his having been raised to the position of stipendiary magistrate, vice Mr. F. S. Isaac

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

FINANCIAL.

COMMONWEALTH TRADE.

From the Collector of Customs we have received a return showing the oversea trade of the Commonwealth for November. It gives the imports as valued at £3,913,588, against £4,350,499 for the corresponding month last year, while the exports are stated at £8,182,111, against £8,912,848. The figures up to date may be summarised as follows:—

IMPORTS SHOW SMALL DECREASE.

	Gold.	Merchandise.	Total.
1908 12 months.	£	£	£
1907	1,640,355	45,556,548	46,797,403
1908	1,067,180	44,068,385	45,115,565
Decrease	573,175	1,488,163	1,681,838

The falling off in the value of the imports has thus not been very great. The shrinkage in exports, on the other hand, has been heavy indeed, especially as regards produce. This can be seen from the table that follows:—

	Gold.	Produce.	Total.
1908 12 months.	£	£	£
1907	10,655,437	54,278,569	64,962,006
1908	10,096,428	42,651,336	55,743,662
Movement	Inc. 3,018,989	Dec. 11,627,233	Dec. 9,068,344

LIGHT INSOLVENCY RETURNS.

The insolvency returns for the year, as supplied by officials of the Bankruptcy Court, show an increase over those of last year, which held the record for the lightness of the figures. We should have to go back many years, when neither population nor the volume of trade bore to the State equalled that of to-day, to find a parallel for the figures for 1907, while we have to go back to 1904 to find a year whose bankruptcy figures exceeded those of the last five occasions in the last 15 years have lighter returns been presented. The returns for the last 15 years may be given as follow:—

Year.	No.	Liabilities in Schedules.	Assets in Schedules.	Deficiency.
1894	1,515	£1,852,225	£496,935	£856,990
1895	1,719	1,775,607	747,952	995,560
1896	919	657,344	409,028	217,383
1897	849	671,511	291,409	369,641
1898	754	605,262	263,500	342,062
1899	653	521,993	175,245	346,808
1900	660	743,867	327,900	415,954
1901	692	707,992	193,477	493,814
1902	685	583,395	124,426	456,777
1903	483	520,429	173,407	346,992
1904	407	440,067	253,292	187,776
1905	407	380,230	160,122	129,607
1906	428	379,740	93,291	96,529
1907	387	310,008	132,434	67,234
1908	356	293,600	135,567	157,945

NEW COMPANIES.

The following is a return of operations at the office of the Registrar-General under the Companies Act as for 1908, in comparison with the corresponding figures for 1906 and 1907:—

	1906.	1907.	1908.
Cos.—Limited liability.			
New companies. No.	189	189	197
Nominal capital	£4,928,960	£3,777,197	£3,844,175
Cos.—No liability.			
New companies. No.	61	63	30
Nominal capital	£871,629	£435,475	£238,995

It will be noted that there has been a slight increase in both the number and the aggregate capital of the limited liability companies registered, while there has been a further marked falling off in connection with those with no liability.

THE MORE IMPORTANT FLOTATIONS.

Here follows a list of the companies with a nominal capital of £50,000 and over registered at the office of the Registrar-General last year:—

	Nominal capital.
J. W. Bagbee and Co., Ltd.	100,000
Stewart Dresser and Co. (Australia), Ltd.	150,000
The Rosehill Racecourse Co., Ltd.	75,000
Solomon Islands Development Co., Ltd.	100,000
The Electric Light and Power Supply Corporation, Ltd.	100,000
Gerald's, Ltd.	50,000
Australian Turbine Fuels, Ltd.	75,000
Wunderlich, Ltd.	200,000
The Pacific Fisheries, Ltd.	50,000
Australian Woollen Mills, Ltd.	100,000
E. F. Broad, Ltd.	50,000
Brown and Polson, Ltd.	50,000
Harrington, Ltd.	60,000
The India Copper-mining and Smelting Co., Ltd.	120,000
The Co-operative Motor Society, Ltd.	100,000
Australian Mutual Fire Insur. Society, Ltd.	100,000
E. D. Pike and Co., Ltd.	50,000
Australian Leather Rubber Co., Ltd.	100,000
The Metropolitan Accident Fire and General Insur. Co., Ltd.	250,000
G. E. Crane and Sons, Ltd.	65,000
Kangiara Mines, No Liability	50,000

CUSTOMS COLLECTIONS FOR NEW SOUTH WALES.

The Customs collections for this State during December totalled £367,482, against £406,526 for the corresponding month in 1907. For the last two calendar years the following comparison of the aggregate collections may be made:—

Year.	Total Customs Collections.
1907	£4,467,517
1908	4,596,967
Increase	£129,450

Though the figures for the year show a fairly substantial increase, those for the last quarter show a shrinkage of £297,919, the falling off for December alone being £139,345.

GOLD AND SILVER EXPORTS.

The exports of gold from the State during December are returned by the Customs-house authorities as—Coined £33,746, uncoined £39,546; while the exports of silver for the same period aggregated the value of £40,126. For each of the last seven calendar years exports of these metals have been:—

	Gold. Coined.	Gold. Uncoined.	Silver.
1902	£2,606,043	£499,076	£269,676
1903	3,321,241	1,277,029	577,919
1904	2,336,567	1,588,031	897,789
1905	805,360	1,690,035	797,859
1906	4,406,001	1,416,731	1,218,311
1907	1,430,204	1,171,023	840,836
1908	2,485,334	1,019,152	790,268

MORTGAGES, LIENS, ETC.

From the deeds branch of the office of the Registrar-General we have received a return from which have been selected the following particulars of public interest:—

	1906.	1907.	1908.
	£.	£.	£.
Conveyance (absolute)	2,604,456	3,341,326	2,372,257
Conveyances under foreclosure	159,556	177,251	203,777
Leases (exceeding 3 years)	53,103	38,542	63,385
Assignments of leases	107,116	207,673	175,755
Mortgages	2,952,679	5,021,200	5,010,503
Transfers of mortgages	6,290	3,587	311,198
Reconveyances	3,944,154	4,020,317	3,328,444
Transfers of conditional purchases			
Conveyances	1,250,856	2,785,579	2,240,206
Mortgages	518,009	1,128,931	1,006,038
Transfers of mortgages	6,290	3,587	26,382
Reconveyances	79,416	271,798	68,057
Liens on wool	608,292	833,347	573,408
Mortgages on live stock	1,245,977	1,722,238	950,666
Discharges of mortgages on live stock	1,184,291	1,258,575	
Liens on growing crops	142,567	96,328	66,328
Discharges	428	225	

THE WOOL MARKET.

The short holiday period in the wool trade has now practically terminated, as on Monday next sales will be resumed in the Sydney market. There will be auctions in Launceston on January 5, and at Hobart on January 8. Melbourne following on January 11, and Geelong on January 14. Although most of the Sydney buyers have been observing the holidays, a large quantity of wool has been sold by private treaty since the public sales closed on December 17, these clearances being indicative of the healthy inquiry which now exists. Upon resumption of public business on January 4, Dalgety and Co., Limited, advise that a firm market is expected, and a good demand at prices fully equal to closing December rates.

BANK CLEARINGS.

Mr. G. M. Allard, the secretary of the Bank Exchange Settlement, has, with his usual promptitude, completed the returns of the bank clearing transactions for the last few days of the year. These enable us to make a complete comparison with the totals for the last nine years, which follow:—

Year.	Aggregate Clearings.
1900	£164,086,313
1901	167,676,706
1902	178,657,708
1903	190,901,466
1904	177,797,334
1905	189,896,381
1906	220,809,512
1907	234,169,822
1908	227,736,243

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A new Customs Tariff Guide is urgently needed by the mercantile community.

How so long a period has already been allowed to elapse since the passing of the new tariff it is difficult to understand.

Certificates of the country of origin of imported merchandise are already coming to hand, issued by the London Chamber of Commerce.

Commonwealth gold exports for 1908 have approximated in value to £11,923,000, an increase of £2,543,000 over those of 1907.

The Metropolitan Accident, Fire, and General Insurance Company, Limited, has been formed with a capital of £250,000 in £1 shares to acquire as a going concern the industrial accident assurance Business of the Australian Metropolitan Life Assurance Company, Ltd., now carried out by that company in the States of New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria, as well as the assets and liabilities in connection therewith, and with a view to enter into the agreement referred to in clause 3 of the company's articles of association, and to carry the same into effect, and to grant insurances against injury, damage, or loss to persons by accident, sickness, disease, or misadventure of any kind. The registered office of the company will be in Sydney, and the first directors are Messrs. Richard Morris Phillips, Victor Etheldbert Ludlow, Claude Manning, and Richard Watkins.

G. E. Crane and Sons, Ltd., has been formed with a capital of £65,000 in £1 shares to take over as a going concern the business now carried on at Pitt-street, Sydney, and elsewhere under the style or firm of G. E. Crane and Sons, and to carry on all or any of the businesses following:—General merchants and importers of and dealers in all kinds of building materials. The registered office of the company will be at Nos. 33 and 35 Pitt-street, and the first directors are Messrs. Frederick Crane, Henry Ekins Crane, Alfred Crane, and Walter George Crane.

The Apsley Co-operative Butter and Bacon Company, Limited, has been formed with a capital of £5,000 in £1 shares to purchase, manufacture, and sell farming and dairy produce, and to erect and carry on the business of a butter factory for the manufacture of butter from milk and cream supplied by shareholders and others, etc. The first directors of the company are Messrs. William Murray Borthwick, Charles Henry Erratt, William Fletcher, Alexander Sydney Gill, George Robert Gill, Augustus Hooke, and James Steel. Registered office, Walcha, New South Wales.

W. Moffitt and Co., Ltd., has been formed with a capital of £25,000 in £1 shares to carry on the business of wool, hide, tallow, and skin merchants and brokers at Sydney, Brisbane, and Townsville, or at any other place or places, and also to carry on the business of general merchants and dealers. Messrs. William Moffitt, senior, William Edward Kneelmann Moffitt, James M'Naught Harkness, and Louis Milton Triggs are the first directors of the company, whose registered offices will be at Sydney. Every director shall hold at least 1000 shares in the company's capital.

Mr. W. A. Gordon, who for the last eight years has been pastoral superintendent for the A.J.S. Bank, has been appointed general manager of the Australasian Mortgage and Agency Company, Limited, to succeed the late Mr. J. H. Davies.

The receipts of gold at the Sydney branch of the Royal Mint in 1908 totalled 598,402 fine ozs, valued at £2,543,791.

There were coined in Sydney last year 2,017,000 sovereigns, half-sovereigns to the value of £289,000, and new bronze coin to the value of £3600, while worn silver coin to the value of £11,182 has been withdrawn from circulation.

New silver coin has been issued by the Royal Mint to the value of £67,400, and new bronze coin to the value of £3600, while worn silver coin to the value of £11,182 has been withdrawn from circulation.

COMMERCIAL.

THE MARKETS.

The closing day of the old year is never a very strenuous one with merchants, and many of the houses made an early closing. In most of the markets business was of a nominal character. There were few movements in prices of any consequence. Tea was very firm in tone, although buyers were not operating to any extent. Grocery houses were called upon to do nothing more than count up their gains for the year, a congenial enough task, as it has been for them a particularly good year. Country demand has seldom been more consistent, which at first sight is rather remarkable in view of the comparative failure of season's wheat crop and of the sharp pinch of drought which was experienced in parts of the west at one period. The explanation probably lies in the happy circumstance that the country people, albeit suffered through an indifferent season, never entered upon it in better of than they entered upon 1908; and they were therefore under no obligation to curtail their living expenses, as might have been the case under other circumstances. The depressing character of the earlier months were more than compensated for by the high promise of the harvest, and although the crop ultimately ran practically to failure in the districts along the Western line, the yellows did not begin to show until much of the buying for the year had been done. These considerations apply not only to groceries but to most other lines of merchandise. Great has been the complaints of dullness among hardware merchants, but the fact has been that the country has bought liberally all along of fencing wire, nettings, and the like, as every year. Both in volume of sales and in prices the year's business in shelf lines has been satisfactory. Only in heavy lines have been shadeed profits, partly because of the slump in the markets in producing countries and partly because of the excessive importations. "Everyone is now an importer" has become a market currency, but it is a system which, in cutting out the merchant house in the old sense of the term, carries with it the disadvantage of exploiting the spot market to haphazard conditions. Where there are so many importing in a comparatively small way, the task of adjusting stocks to requirements becomes obviously much more difficult. The low prices ruling for heavy metals have been, however, so much gain to the farmers, even if not very satisfactory to merchants. As compared with last year, for instance, black wires are roughly about 10/ more in buyers' favour now than in last December; and if we take the average of the year the margin is greater than this. In rabbit nettings, however, there is a difference of £8 to £10 per mile in standard descriptions, as compared with last year. G.C. and plain iron have been 15/ to £1 cheaper. The feature of the year's business is probably the stronger appearance in the markets of locally-manufactured nettings, wires, nails, and similar lines. As regards oils, linseed at 3/2 to 3/3[] for Blundell's raw, is about /5 per gallon cheaper than last year; and has generally proved very unremunerative property. Having regard to the light stocks on spot, and to the small shipments in near positions, it is probable that the prices of this commodity will improve when the new year business is seriously entered on. Whitelead, which was selling yesterday on a basis of £20 to £30/5/ for Champion's in cwts., is cheaper by £3 or so than last year. Its immediate future is, of course, the future of pig lead and that is indefinite enough, although it is not without significance that some of the very large houses of the mother country have been heaping up stocks for some time past at the low prices prevailing.

When it comes to jute, the comparison is not so easy to make, as in the interval the standard size has undergone changes. Old cornsacks, which yesterday were quoted at 7/9[] were being sent out last December at 6/1[] to 6/2. The higher quotation now, however, is due almost entirely to the circumstance that no more old standard sizes may be imported. Now sacks were quoted yesterday up to 4/1[] and 5/, although some sellers were content to rest at 4/10[] to 4/11.

Wheat, which is ever the subject of the private speculation of all at this time of the year, rented quietly yesterday at 2/8 with, however, a brighter market outlook. London having recovered a little more nerve in the face of lighter offerings from Argentina. A comparison of wheat prices ruling yesterday with those quoted on the last day of 1907 shows a fall of /10 per bushel; but the difference is that the State has now a fair amount of wheat to sell, whereas last year it was on woefully short commons. Flour, too, is correspondingly lower—rather more than £1 per ton cheaper.

THE YEAR'S EXPORTS COMPARED.

The Customs returns of the principal articles of export from the port of Sydney during the 12 months of 1908 compare with those for the years 1907 and 1906 as under:

	1908.	1907.	1906.
Wool, bales	800,929	806,[illegible]	655,531
Skins, pkgs.	31,638	28,179	37,268
Hides, No.	336,157	192,214	131,526
Tallow, casks	31,478	26,445	46,727
Tin, ingots	109,924	119,849	112,469
Copper, do.	1,503,768	1,883,479	1,503,187
Shale, tons	18,209	3,089	1,224
Leather, pkgs.	11,176	9,290	10,999
Pres. meats, cases	89,558	79,916	69,504
Frzn. mutton, cases	942,035	1,165,123	1,294,[illegible]
Frzn. beef, pcs.	6,087	15,199	34,038
Hoofs, bones, cwt.	12,453	12,843	11,359
Butter, lbs.	1,190,531	860,256	1,057,[illegible]
Rabbits, pairs	5,907,659	6,924,999	5,776,045
Butter, boxes	330,514	333,773	455,842
Timber, sup. ft.	17,429,181	22,400,539	25,153,[illegible]

At Darling Harbour yesterday 1924 bales of wool were manifested to arrive.

The revenue collected at the Customs-house yesterday amounted to £21,424.

At Darling Harbour yesterday 2245 tons of wheat and 18 tons of flour were manifested to arrive.

STOCKS IN BOND.

The stocks of merchandise other than wines, spirits, narcotics, and sugar in bond on December 31, also at the corresponding period last year, and movements of the week, were:—

—	Imported.	Duty Paid.	Exported.	In Bond a year ago.	In Bond on Friday.
Hops, lb.	—	—	2	23,361	38,118
Cordials, boxes	—	150	2	12,922	7,561
Milk, cases	1,000	—	—	5,013	5,556
Bids. sacks	1,054	280	3,507	4,201	26,001
Butts, casks	10,670	3,719	2,157	24,393	31,786
Vinegar, casks	25	—	—	310	285
Butts, casks	3	1	—	2,234	994
Gals. iron, cases	—	5	—	1,881	716
Gheesing, casks	—	6	—	831	280
Butts, cases	—	—	—	588	1,245
Salt, sacks	—	—	—	49,025	45,801
Butts, bags	80	—	—	21,218	15,568
Rock salt, tons	—	—	—	16	111
Cement, casks	—	—	—	4,712	2,359
Currants, lb.	—	996	—	85,294,731	220,345
Raisins, lb.	—	51	—	169,105	145,515
Dates, lb.	—	524	—	95,544	96,093
Olives, tins	—	—	—	79,571	23,416
Other fruits, lb.	—	—	1,148	38,[illegible]	32,[illegible]
Oil, gal.	8,637	204	1,000	28,334	92,[illegible]

The bonded stocks of sugar in bond comprise:

	Imp.	Duty paid.	Exp.	In Bond.
October 26	1848	636	1,147	41,198
November 27	767	1244	696	45,753
December 4	1915	1167	590	45,589
December 11	1801	1291	540	45,649
December 18	1757	1322	606	44,107
December 25	317	1148	359	43,917
December 31	774	184	317	41,266

At the end of last year 61,900 tons of sugar were in bond.

LONDON MARKET CABLES.

SILVER.

LONDON, Dec. 30 (3.30 p.m.).

Bar silver is quoted to-day 1/11[] per ounce standard.

METALS.

Dec. 31 (4.30 a.m.).

Yesterday's closing quotations were:—

Copper.—Cash, £62/17/6, a £64/2/6—2/6 up.

Electrolytic, £66/15—5/ down.

Tin.—Is £123/10/, a £123/15/—12/6 up.

WHEAT SALE.

The cargo of the Munter has been sold at 27/ per quarter of 480lb.

VISIBLE WHEAT SUPPLY.

The American visible supply of wheat east of the "Rockies" is estimated by "Bradstreet's" at the equivalent to 8,713,000 bushels, as compared with 8,241,000 bushels last week.

INTERSTATE MARKETS.

ADELAIDE, Thursday.

Wheat was advised as somewhat firmer from London; yesterday but prices locally were not altered, remaining at 3/7[] for prompt delivery. Flour was nominal at £8 15/. New hop not yet been quoted. Bran and pollard were firm at late rates. Business was passing in chaff for export up to 67/. Fair trade was reported in barley.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

Good business was done in wheat, the market being steady at from 3/7 to 3/8. Old flour sold at £8 15/, and new at £8/10. Bran and pollard were firm, and sales were made at late rates. Oats were steady at from 1/6 to 1/10. Maize was slightly firmer with inquiry at 4/ for prime. Chaff was firm, with small supply at £2/15/ to £3/12/6. Hay was in fair supply. Chaffing sheaves sold at £2/10, manger sheaves up to £3/5, manger hay at £4/10/ to £5/5, and lucerne at £5/10/. The market was inactive, corn sacks on spot sold from 5/4[] to 5/6. Bran bags sold at 4/6.

THE PRODUCE MARKETS.

TRADE IN SUSSEX-STREET.

Potatoes were the only feature in meeting anything like inquiry in the produce markets. Other commodities sold on the bare requirement basis, owing to the end of the month. A shipment of about 150 bags were marketed from the Hunter River. This was a fairly large consignment from that district, and agents wished to get rid of their holdings before the holidays. They, however, were forced to take price £1 lower than yesterday, so as to quickly clear stocks. This value was in the retailers' hands, and they took advantage of it. Disappointed buyers of late were made from £7 to £8, according to quality, and the supplies were soon consumed. Chaff was quiet at current values. A shipment was expected on Monday from Adelaide. Bran met with a limited demand, but only a few were coming forward. Maize secured very little attention, but better results were anticipated during the coming week. Oaten hay continues demanding very little attention up to £5/15/. Derrick-straw and oaten were quiet. Oats were steady at late values.

Current quotations were:—

FEED AND OATMEAL MARKET.

Maize.—Local: Prime 4/4, medium from 4/2. Victorian: 4/3[] to 4/6. Queensland: 4/3. Java: 4/2 to 4/3 per bushel. New Hebrides: 4/2 to 4/4.

Barley.—Nominal.

Peas.—Blue, nominal; grey, 4/2 to 4/3.

Oats.—Tasmanian: 2/9. New Zealand: 2/10 to 2/11 bush.

Bran.—£5; pollard, £6 ton.

FODDER AND HAY MARKET.

Chaff.—South Australian: Prime £4/30 to £4/12/6, medium £4/5 to £4/10. Victorian: £4/10/ to £5 ton.

Derrick straw.—Tasmanian: £2/17/6 ton.

Lucerne.—Hunter River: Prime dry green £2/15 to £3 ton; medium and crassy from £1 up to £2/10 ton.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes.—Hunter River: £5 to £6.

Onions.—Victorian: £5/10 ton.

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Arrivals transacted very little business in dairy lines. Eggs were selling steadily at weak prices. Supplies were ample from all quarters. Southerns and railways were in the largest supply, and did not move off well. Cheese was working off slightly better. Choicest milky sold readily at 6[]d, but fresh has fallen away for bacon. Many of the floors were nearly bare of stocks. Hams were out of the question. Weights up to 20lb sold at 9d to 9[]d, and 8[]d a few weeks ago. Lard was dull. Butter made fair sales.

Current quotations were:—

Bacon.—Per lb., rolled bacon (60), good 9[]d to 9d, second and medium grades 8d; per piece (60), 9d to 9[]d; per cut (60), 8[]d to 9d; per side (60), 8[]d to 9d; per side (60) 8[]d to 9d; prime large 9[]d to 10, good 9 to 9[]d; special brands, 10 per lb.

Hams.—Per lb., smoked (60), 9[]d; bladders, 7[]; bulk, 7d; special brands, packets and small bladders, 7[]d; bulk, 7d.

Bacon.—Prime factory, sides (90) to 9[]d; flitches 9[]d to 9d; middles (90) to 10d; special brands, sides 10[]d; flitches 9[]d to 10d; middles (90 to 11[]); seed hams, double covers 11[]d to 12[]; hams, single covers, 12[]d to 13[]d. New Zealand hams, 1[]d per lb. Rail, 1[]d to 1[]d.

Eggs.—Northern, 9[]d to 10d; Southern and railways, 9d to 9[]d; fresh-laid, 1[]d to 2d. Fowls, 1[]d to 1[]; choice 1[]d; duck eggs, 10d to 11d, choice to 1[]d.

Messrs. Gill Bros. report having obtained the following prices at their auction sale yesterday (Thursday):—Extra Cane, 9d to 9[]d; new laid, 1d to 1[]d; choice suburban brands, 1[]; duck, 10 to 11d; choice duck, 1d to 1[]d; turkeys, gobblers, extra heavy and choice up to 2[]d; choice 18d to 24d, good 14d to 15d, hens from 8d to 10d; geese, extra heavy and choice 10d to 11d, good 7d to 8d; guineafowls, 4d; pigeons, 2d to 1[]d per pair.

FIREWOOD.

At the auction sales only 20 trucklands were submitted, and prices were quite nominal.

The following prices were realised:—

Red box, wood, 12d to 15d; good 12d to 13d; bakers' wood, 12d to 13d; good 11d to 12d; ironbark, 10d to 12d; stringybark, 10d to 12d.

AUCTION SALES.

The most noticeable feature of the produce sale held in the Redfern goods shed on Thursday morning was the marked rise in the price of hearth hay. This commodity was in very small supply, and, being eagerly sought after, advanced to the extent of about 7/6 per ton on Wednesday's rates. The other commodities moved off quietly at well maintained rates. There was a large attendance of buyers, and competition was fairly animated, sales being brisk. The offerings were made up in the following manner: Chaff 15, hearth chaff 1, lucerne hay 5, oaten hay 2, wheat 1, potatoes 4. Seven trucklands of chaff changed hands at prices which remained firm at late levels, the choice new season's oats realised from 4/6 to 4/9, and prime medium from 4/1 to 4/4 per cwt. A small consignment of prime lucerne hay was booked at 5/5, per cwt. There was a keen demand for lucerne hay, four consignments of which realised daily hundred down at firmer prices. Choice Mudgee hay had attention at from 5/5 to 5/6, good at 4/4, prime wheat at 5/11, and medium at 5/, per cwt. Prime rack oaten hay brought 5/2 per cwt., while medium chickenfeed was sold at 5/ per bushel. A further consignment of new season's locally-grown potatoes was to hand, and attracted a considerable amount of attention. Choice samples were disposed of at 9/10, prime at from 8/2 to 8/10, and medium to good at from 6/5 to 7/7 per cwt.

No further sale of produce will be held at Redfern till Monday, January 4.

Supplies were disposed of as under:—

Chaff.—Ex Derrida, (3268) 4/6; Kelliher, Gammalia, (3269) 4/3, (3266) 4/3; Barton, (3240) p 4/2; Kelly Bros., (3270) 4/4; Bell, (11266) 4/3; Bank of Australasia, Wirega, (3710) 4/1; ex Cooburra, (3673) p 4/1; ex Gammalia, (3263) p 4/2, (3262) p 4/2, (3260) p 4/2, (3261) p 4/3 per cwt.

Lucerne Chaff.—Ticket tabeling, (19955) 5/5 per cwt.

Lucerne Hay.—From Stanly, Modgee, (4966) green 5/6, brown 5/; Sam Moundi, (6[illegible]) p 4/2; Heaton's Nemingha, (3183-3[illegible]) Chalfey, (2938) 4/4; ex Ashfield, (12965) 5/ per cwt.

Oaten Hay.—From Bestwick, Perthville, (4923) 5/2; Cleary, Mulgrave, (11476) p 3/4 per cwt.

Wheat.—From De Laitre, Temora, (6959) 3/ per bushel.

Potatoes.—Ex Mulgrave, (3200) 21 bags 9/10; ex Windsor, (9733), Johnson, 8 bags 6/2, Hayes, 5 bags 7/7, Nicholl, 11 bags 8/10; J. Salter, 1 bags 6/10; Armstrong, (9735) 12 bags branded AI 8/10, 11 bags 8/9; ex Nevara, (9931) 7 bags 8/2 per cwt.

FRUIT MARKETS.

BATHURST-STREET.

Business in the fruit trade was dull. Choice samples were still scarce, and met a quiet inquiry. Small stuff was practically unsaleable, especially small peaches. The weekly Tasmanian shipment arrived with a light cargo. Black add red currants made fair sales, while cherries were quiet. Bananas were

—PINEAPPLE BACON and HAMS.—Quality of highest excellence. Flavour really delicious. Ask your grocer for it. Take no other.—Advt.

PERMEWAN, WRIGHT, and CO., Ltd.—Grain and Produce Agents. Auc. Sales daily at Redfern.—Advt.

Ellis and Co. Live Stock and Produce Merchants.—Sales of hay, chaff, etc, held at Redfern daily.—Advt.

in large supply, and sold at much cheaper rates. A small consignment of local grapes arrived and sold up to 6/ per box.

Current quotations were:—

Apples.—Local Dessert: Choice 10/ to 12/, medium 6/ to 8/, small 3/ to 3/6; cooking, choice 5/ to 6/, medium 3/ to 3/6 per gin-case; jam lots, 2/ per gin-case.

Apricots.—Local: Choice coloured 4/ to 5/, medium 2/6 to 3/ per box; jam lots, 3/ per gin-case. Victorian: 4/ to 6/ per bushel-case.

Black Currants.—Tasmanian: 4/ to 5/ per quarter-case.

Bananas.—G.M., 10/6 to 11/6 per case, 3/ to 7/ per bunch. Fiji: 9/6 to 11/ per case, 2/6 to 3/6 per bunch. Queensland: 7/ to 7/6 per case, 1/6 to 3/ per bunch.

Cherries.—Adelaide: Whites, 11/ to 12/, blacks 13/ to 14/ per 4lib box. Local: Choice 4/6 to 5/ per 12lib box.

Gooseberries.—Local: Choice 3/6, good 2/6 to 3/ per box.

Lemons.—Local: Choice 16/ to 18/, medium 10/ to 12/, small 7/ to 8/.

Mandarins.—Second crop: Rupenrs, choice 10/, medium 5/ to 6/, small 2/ to 2/6 per gin-case.

Nectarines.—Choice 4/6 to 5/, medium 3/ to 3/6 per half-case, small 2/ to 3/ per gin-case.

Oranges.—Local: Choice 9/ to 10/, medium 6/ to 7/, small and rough 2/6 to 3/. Second crop, choice 6/ to 7/, medium 2/6 to 3/, small and rough almost unsaleable. American: Washington Navels, £1 to £1/1/ per box, containing from 150 to 200.

Plums.—Angelinas, choice 3/6 to 4/, medium 2/6. Burbanks, choice 3/6 to 4/, medium 2/6 per half-case. Diamonds, choice 6/; Japanese, 5/6 to 4/ per gin-case. Jam lots, black 4/6 to 5/ per gin-case.

Pears.—Largeville, choice 4/6 to 5/, medium 3/ to 3/6 per gin-case; Williams', 7/ to 7/6; other sorts, 2/6 to 4/ per gin-case.

Peaches.—Sligatones, choice 6/ to 7/, medium 3/6 to 4/, small 2/ to 2/6 per half-case; clingstones, choice 4/6 to 5/, medium 3/ to 3/6, small 2/ per half-case; jam lots, 2/6 to 3/ per gin-case; small peaches 2/ per gin-case.

Pineapples.—Queensland: Choice Ripley's and commons, 7/ to 8/, medium 5/ to 6/, small and inferior 3/ to 3/6.

Passionfruit.—Queensland: Choice 2/ to 4/ per quarter-case.

Tomatoes.—Local: 1/ to 2/ per half-case. Chinese: 4/6 to 5/ per quarter-case.

Rockmelons.—Queensland: 2/ to 3/6 per bushel-case, 5/ to 7/6 per double-case.

Red Currants.—Tasmanian: 4/ per quarter-case. Local: 2/6 per 12lib box.

Watermelons.—Queensland: Large 12/ to 15/, medium 10/ to 12/ per dozen.

Peanuts.—Sd. walnuts, /6d; almonds, /10; Lychee, /10; and Barcelonas, /8d per lb.

Grapes.—Brisbane, whites 4/ per 10lib box, 5/6 to 6/ per 16lib box. Blacks: 6/ to 7/ per 16lib box; local, 5/ to 6/ per box.

Melbourne Peaches.—2/ to 3/ per bushel-case.

Italian Lemons.—16/ per box; oranges, 12/6 per box.

MELBOURNE.

MELBOURNE, Thursday.

In the Queen Victoria Market to-day fruit sold as follows:—Almonds, 5d to 6d per lb; apples, 4/ to 8/ per case; apricots, /1 to /2 per lb; cherries /1 to /2[] dtto; currants, black /2 to /5 ditto, red /2 to /4 ditto, white /2 to /3 ditto; damsons, /2 to /3 ditto; figs, 2/ to 5/6 per half-case; green gooseberries, /1 to /1[] per lb.; ripe ditto, /1 to /2 ditto; oranges, imported, 20/ to 25/ per double case; lemons, imported 20/ to 25/ per case; local 6/ to 8/ per case; loquats, 2/ to 2/ per lb; melons, water, 4/ to 6/ per doz; nectarines, 2/ to 4/6d per case; peaches, 2/ to 10/ per case; pears, 5/ to 7/ per case; plums, 2/6 to 5/6 ditto; raspberries, /2[] to /4 per lb.; strawberries, /8 to 1/2 ditto; walnuts, /7 to /9 ditto.

PRODUCE ARRIVALS.

The arrivals of maize, oats, chaff, potatoes, and butter by rail and sea for the week ended Tuesday, December 29, together with the totals to date for the year, and the corresponding period of the previous year, are appended:—

	Maize. Coastal. Bags.	Maize. By rail. Bags.	Other. Bags.
Week's receipts	1,320	495	4,168
Previous week	2,120	1,050	2,671
Total to date, 1908	246,500	60,673	60,745
Total to date, 1907	318,384	34,937	7,025
	Oats.		
Week's receipts	—	429	1,72[illegible]
Previous week	—	1,040	599
Total, 1908	21,017	2,291,225	
Total, 1907	62,540	169,836	
	Chaff.		
Week's receipts	—	20,550	5,528
Previous week	—	26,550	14,911
Total, 1908	759,650	1,048,491	
Total, 1907	1,120,740	1,109,898	
	Potatoes.		
Week's receipts	839	397	1,870
Previous week	8,576	330	1,942
Total, 1908	40,968	75,377	219,011
Total, 1907	65,931	138,773	257,853
	Butter. Boxes.	Butter. Boxes.	Eggs. Boxes.
Week's receipts	15,916	2,742	11
Previous week	22,180	2,864	34
Total, 1908	420,194	115,016	303
Total, 1907	174,269	141,807	1,197

The following is a return of produce received at Sydney, Clyde, Homebush, Burwood, Ashfield, Petersham, and Newtown, per rail, for the year and for the two previous years:—

	Total. 1908.	Total. 1907.	Total. 1906.
Butter, kegs	1,968	509	795
Butter, cases	61,376	125,985	181,105
Cheese, cases	12,098	9,990	15,237
Eggs, cases	13,435	26,658	29,[illegible]
Bacon, cases	11,867	11,[illegible]	232
Bacon, sides	13,721	4,417	14,014
Hay, trucks	4,103	3,096	2,000
Straw, trucks	555	691	1,[illegible]
Chaff, trucks	5,921	6,443	8,970
Oats, tons	1,533	3,770	2,708
Barley, tons	1,000	1,[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Maize, tons	5,569	14,807	6,218
Meal, tons	202	102	240
Potatoes, tons	6,766	10,839	8,515
Onions, tons	1,907	1,[illegible]	
Pollard, tons	1,565	3,829	

STOCK TRUCKINGS.

For the sale of January 7, 595 sheep vans and 195 cattle vans have been ordered. Order books are closed for sheep vans up to and including the market of January 7.

PROPERTY SALES.

Messrs. Henry P. Dalborne and Co. report the following sales during the week:—3 farm blocks, Warriewood, £300; 3 lots, Seaforth Estate, £360; 2 lots, Stanwell Park, £200; 2 lots, Westmead, £39; 1 lot, Yos Yos, £30; 1 lot, Rockdale Estate, £160; 1 cottage, Forder Mosman, £750; also terrace property, Darlington, £1000.

HOMEBUSH STOCK MARKET.

YESTERDAY'S SALES.

SHEEP.

Upwards of 29,574 sheep (including lambs) were balloted for sale, from 36 consignors, and about 23,000 were penned at the opening of the sales. The total pennings amounted to 25,453 head. One or two small trains were late and were penned next day. There were six drafts ranging from 1000 to

FUNERALS.

BAYNGATE.—The Friends and Relatives of ALFRED JAMES BAYNGATE are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his dearly-beloved WIFE; to move from his father's residence, 76 Berkley-road, Manly, TO-MORROW MORNING, at 10 o'c., for Manly Cemetery. T. WAUGH and CO., Funeral Directors.

BELL.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. RICHARD BELL are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly-loved SON, Frankie; to leave their residence, Wentworth-road, Burwood, THIS AFTERNOON, at 2.15, for the Necropolis, via Burwood station.
COFFILL and COMPANY,
Sydney, Burwood, Summer Hill, etc.

BURCHER.—The Friends of Mr. W. J. BURCHER are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved WIFE, Ellen Harriet; to move from our Funeral Parlour, 10 Castlereagh-street, THIS FRIDAY, at 3.30 a.m., for the Necropolis.
Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Limited, Undertakers,
7 Elizabeth street,
Tel., 875 Central. Sydney.

CHALMERS.—The Friends of Mr. JAMES CHALMERS and WILLIAM HOODRICK are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their beloved BROTHER and NEPHEW, Edward Chalmers; to move from Edinburgh Arms Hotel, 36 Sussex-street, THIS FRIDAY, at 1.30 p.m., for the Necropolis.
Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Limited, Undertakers, 7 Elizabeth-street, Sydney. Tel., 875 Cent.

R.A.O.B., MARINE BANNER.—The Brethren of the above Banner are requested to attend the Funeral of Bro. E. CHALMERS; to move from the Edinburgh Arms Hotel, 36 Sussex-street, TO-DAY, at 1.30, for Necropolis.

DREIS.—The Friends of the late Mrs. ELIZABETH DREIS are respectfully invited to attend her Funeral; to leave her late residence, Ferndale, Fairfield, THIS FRIDAY, at 2 p.m., for R. C. Cemetery, Parramatta. By request, no flowers.
R. METCALFE, Undertaker. Tel., 96 P.

DREIS.—The Friends of HENRY, GEORGE, and CATHERINE DREIS are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late beloved MOTHER, Mrs. Elizabeth Dreis; to leave her late residence, Ferndale, Fairfield, THIS FRIDAY, at 2 p.m., for R. C. Cemetery, Parramatta. By request, no flowers.
Tel., 96 P. R. METCALFE, Undertaker, Parramatta.

DREIS.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. MAHALM and FAMILY, of Leichhardt, are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of their late beloved MOTHER and GRANDMOTHER, Mrs. Elizabeth Dreis; to leave her late residence, Ferndale, Fairfield, THIS FRIDAY, at 2 p.m., for R. C. Cemetery, Parramatta. By request, no flowers.
R. METCALFE, Undertaker, Parramatta. T., 96 P.

HARRIS.—The Funeral of the late Mr. CHARLES H. HARRIS, of Stanley-street, Newtown, will take place THIS (Friday) MORNING at 10 a.m., at the Roman Catholic Cemetery, Necropolis. Friends will please take Funeral Train leaving Mortuary Station at 9.32 a.m.
WOOD and COMPANY, Funeral Directors,
Sydney, Balmain, and Suburbs. Tel., 726, etc.

HEWITT.—The Friends of Mrs. JOHN HEWITT are respectfully invited to attend the Funeral of her late dearly loved HUSBAND; to leave his late residence, 721 Bourke-street, Surry Hills, THIS (Friday) AFTERNOON, at 2.30, for Waverley Cemetery.
COFFILL and COMPANY,
Funeral Directors.
Tel., 1160, 424, etc.

LEWIS.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. EDWARD J. LEWIS are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their dearly beloved SON, Edward Eugene; to move from their residence, 7 Stephen's-buildings, Windmill-street, Miller's Point, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 1.15 p.m., for the Necropolis.
Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Limited, Undertakers, 7 Elizabeth-street, Sydney. Tel., 875 Central.

LEWIS.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. JOHN M'BRIDE are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their dearly beloved NEPHEW, Edward Eugene Lewis; to move from 7 Stephen's-buildings, Windmill-street, Miller's Point, TO-MORROW, Saturday, at 1.15 p.m., for the Necropolis. Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Limited.

LEWIS.—The Friends of Mr. and Mrs. JOHN M'BRIDE are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their dearly beloved NEPHEW, Edward Eugene Lewis; to move from 7 Stephen's-buildings, Windmill-street, Miller's Point, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 1.15 p.m., for the Necropolis. Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Limited.

O'CALLAGHAN.—The Funeral of the late Miss KATHLEEN O'CALLAGHAN will leave her late residence, 166 Thomas-street, Haymarket, THIS AFTERNOON, at 1.15, for R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood.
P. BYRNES and CO.,
Undertakers, 185 George-street West.

O'CALLAGHAN.—The Friends of Mrs. JULIA O'CALLAGHAN and FAMILY are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly loved DAUGHTER and SISTER, Kathleen; to leave her late residence, 166 Thomas-street, Haymarket, THIS DAY, at 1.15, for R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood. P. BYRNES and CO.

O'CALLAGHAN.—The Children of Mary St. Francis, Haymarket, are kindly requested to attend the Funeral of their loving SISTER, Kathleen; to leave her late residence, 166 Thomas-street, Haymarket, THIS DAY, at 1.15, for R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood.
P. BYRNES and CO., 185 George-street West.

O'CALLAGHAN.—The Friends of the Misses MARY and MARGARET CONDON are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly loved NIECE, Kathleen; to leave her late residence, 166 Thomas-street, Haymarket, THIS DAY, at 1.15, for R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood. P. BYRNES and CO., Undertakers.

O'DOWD.—The Friends of the deceased Mr. ANDREW J. O'DOWD are kindly invited to attend his Funeral; to move from his residence, 18 Oxford-street, Waverley, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 9.30 a.m., for the Waverley Cemetery.
Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Ltd., Undertakers,
7 Elizabeth-street, city.
Tel., 875 Central.

O'DOWD.—The Friends of Mrs. BRIDGET O'DOWD are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her dearly beloved HUSBAND, Andrew J. O'Dowd; to move from their residence, 18 Oxford-street, Waverley, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 9.30 a.m., for the Waverley Cemetery. Mrs. P. KIRBY and SON, Ltd.

O'DOWD.—The Friends of Mrs. PURTILL and FAMILY are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of her late beloved SON-IN-LAW and their BROTHER-IN-LAW, Andrew J. O'Dowd; to move from his residence, 18 Oxford-street, Waverley, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 9.30 a.m., for the Waverley Cemetery.

O'DOWD.—The Friends of Mr. HAGEN and FAMILY are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of his late beloved BROTHER-IN-LAW and their UNCLE, Andrew Joseph O'Dowd; to move from his residence, 18 Oxford-street, Waverley, TO-MORROW, SATURDAY, at 9.30 a.m., for the Waverley Cemetery.

O'HALLORAN.—The Friends of Mr. JOHN and the Misses MARY and MAGGIE O'HALLORAN are kindly invited to attend the Funeral of their late dearly loved MOTHER, Hanorah; to leave St. Benedict's Church, George-street West, THIS AFTERNOON, at 2.30, for R.C. Cemetery, Rookwood.
P. BYRNES and CO., Undertakers,
Tel., 203 Glebe. 185 George-street West.

O'HALLORAN.—The Friends of the late HENRY WALTER COTT are kindly invited to attend his Funeral; to move from his late residence, Hoxton Park, THIS FRIDAY, at 1 o'clock, for Church of England Cemetery, Liverpool.
F. HARTGE, Undertaker,
Liverpool.

WOOD AND COMPANY,
SYDNEY'S LEADING FIRM OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS, conduct Funeral work at lower cost than others. Our charges are so low as you would reasonably expect to pay for the work performed.
No fees or commissions given to secure business.
WOOD and COMPANY, Head Office and Mortuary Chapel, 810-12 George-street, Sydney. Tel., 726.
Branches All suburbs.

COFFILL AND COMPANY,
BY CONSISTENT EFFICIENCY AND SUPERIORITY OF EQUIPMENT, we have attained THE FOREMOST POSITION as FUNERAL DIRECTORS, while still maintaining the Reduced Charges originated by us.
HEAD OFFICE AND MORTUARY CHAMBERS, 673-4 HARRIS-STREET. Tel., 1160.
CENTRAL OFFICE, 735 George-street. Tel., 684.
For Suburban Branches see Telephone Guide.

PITT-STREET HOUSE FOR MOURNING DRESS GOODS.
OUR BLACK DRESS GOODS are perfect in colour, and guaranteed "Fast Dye." Send for samples.
Telephones: 1194 and 2626.
MODERN BROTHERS, 309-317 PITT-STREET, and 426 George-street, SYDNEY.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

YOUR OLD PIANO
Can be turned to good use.
We can take it as part payment for a New Piano.
Call or send us your address, and our expert will value it free of cost.
We sell all our Pianos and Organs on Easy Terms.
Catalogues are free for the asking.
W. H. PALING AND CO., LTD.,
338 GEORGE-STREET, SYDNEY.

GOOD PIANOS ON GOOD TERMS.
GENUINE BERLIN PIANOFORTE, THE BEST VALUE IN GERMAN PIANOS.
No Deposit, 5s weekly. Free delivery.
Your Old Piano Exchanged.
GUR BERLIN PIANO CO.,
9 Wynyard-street, next to Bank N.S.W.

PIANO-SEEKERS
are an unusual piano opportunity here this week. We have a splendid collection of High-grade, Sterling-worth New Pianos, in many styles. Pianos from such world-renowned manufacturers as ED. SEILER, FERD. MANTHEY, FRANZ SCHULE, and CARL HANSEN.
We are the sole agents for these instruments, and sell them fully guaranteed upon Most Liberal Terms.
CALLAN and CO., Ltd., 318 George-street.
IN OUR EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.
FIRST-CLASS SECOND-HAND PIANO
IS ALWAYS OBTAINABLE AT
Half to One-third the ORIGINAL COST,
and
EVERY INSTRUMENT IS GUARANTEED by us,
WHICH ENSURES SATISFACTION.
At present we have instruments by
LIPP, BRCHSTEIN, RONISCH, WILMERS, VICTOR, NEUFELD, and Others.
Easy Terms Arranged. Write or Call,
BRITISH PIANO DEPOT, Ltd.,
9 HARRACK-STREET, SYDNEY,
(near Savings Bank).

NEW £90 Piano, perfect, leaving, take £38. After 3, Stapleton, Crown-st., nr. Oxford-st. Woollahra.
VIOLIN (genuine), cost £35, bargain, £6 10s. Lead on trial anywhere, without cash. 20s 6d. M. Clifton, G.P.O.
CHAPPELL PIANO, check action, £60; iron frame, £14 10s. Powell, 87 Flinders-st.
ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, ROSEBERY RACES. SATURDAY.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

MARTIN'S SECOND-HAND PIANOS.
LARGE ASSORTMENT. ABSOLUTE BARGAINS.
ALMOST NEW.
LIPP (2) SIMPERT
SIEGMAYER BELL
COLLARD and COLLARD SCHAAF
VOGEL STIENWELL,
RONISCH
AND OTHERS.
AT PRICES FROM £15.
NOTE.—A GOOD SECOND-HAND PIANO is certainly better than a cheap new one of inferior quality.
ORGANS.—ESTEY, MASON and HAMLIN, BELL, PORTABLE ORGANS. Prices from £4 10s.
FULL VALUE ALLOWED FOR OLD PIANOS.
Terms Arranged.
G. H. MARTIN and CO.,
15 and 16 Victoria Markets, George-street (only).

A PIANO FOR 3s PER WEEK. NO DEPOSIT.
We give you cash value, charging only 5 per cent. interest per annum on unpaid balance.
New Pianos by Bluthner, Pleyel, Chickering, Spaethe, Hagspiel, Herbst, Hiller, Kayser, etc.
Old Pianos Taken in Exchange at Full Value.
F. ARNGENHEYSTER and CO., Ltd.,
225 George-street.

GENUINE Carl Ronisch Piano, cost iron frame, bargain, £95. Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st (only).
WORLD Renowned Carl Siewart Pianos, £43, £45, £50; 10 years' guar. Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st.
PIANO Buyers wanting best value have no alternative but to come direct to Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st.
GREAT Variety second-hand Pianos, all makes, from £10, £15, £18, £20. Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st.
SUPERB Walnut and G. Pianos, iron frames, £22, £25, guar. Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st, nr. Oxf.-st.
PIANO Buyers. Attention.—Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st, employ no agts. or canvassers, therefore cheapest.
NEW German Iron-frame Pianos, just landed ex S.S. Bremen, £35. Gordon, 40 Flinders-st (only).
PIANO Buyers Cautioned.—Avoid being swindled by coming direct to Gordon's, 40 Flinders-st, n. Oxf.-st.
ISTENS for Pianos, 55 Flinders-st.—A grand variety of new and second-hand, by favourite makers, check action, solid walnut case, £15, 5 years' guarantee; Euting Piano, cost £55, brilliant, sympathetic tone, £30; Carl Ascherberg, £28; splendid iron-frame, £30; largest Upright Grand, a superb piano, £35; Lipp System Pianos; Bechstein Semi-Grand.
ISTENS, 55 Flinders-street.

HORSES, VEHICLES, & LIVE STOCK.

TWENTY HORSES, heavy and light, from £4; also small Pony, £5; Sulkies, Buggies, Sociables, Vis.-a-vis, and Pagnel Carts, Waggons, Lorries, Tip and spring Drays, any size; Timber Drays, Commercial Buggies; Baker's Cart, £7; Spring Cart, £5; Order Cart, £5. Square and Compass Saleyards, 703 George-st, Haymarket.
EXPRESS Waggon, Horse, Har., £10; Pony, Vill. Cart, Har., £8; Spring Cart, Horse, Har., £7; Dean's Tout, £6; Billy Tout, £7; 20 Touts, cash or terms. NEWLAND, Sons, 126 George-st West.
COOK'S VEHICLE EXCHANGE for High-class or Reliable New or Second-hand Vehicles, all descriptions. Big Stock; worth seeing. At
218A PITT-STREET.
STYLISH light up-to-date EXPRESS (Angus), suit parcels, tea, or tobacco; also, Grocers', Bakers', and Surveyors' Waggons; 2 extra light Outsider, suit ponies. At COOK'S, 218A Pitt-st, op. Palace Theatre.
FOUR-WHEELED DOGCART, light stylish, English outsider, prime winner, in splendid order; Bargain. COOK'S,
218A Pitt-street.
CLEARING-OUT Sale, largest and most varied stock, Horse, s.-hand Vehicle in city; handsome Sulky, fit for horse or pony; Buggies, Sociables, Pastrycooks' Waggons, Milk, Butchers', Butter, Pagnel Carts, 3 light Drags, Buses, Handcarts, Wheels, Axles, Handmade Harness, Waggonettes. ELLIOTT'S, 493 Geo.-st.
CHEAP.—Dealers' Vans, Guard Rail Vans, Lorries, carry 35 to 80 c., Drays, etc. Elliott's, 493 Geo.-st.
MCNAMARA'S for every description of SINGLE-SEATED TRAY and PHAETON BUGGIES, LADIES' PARK PHAETONS, SOCIABLES, SULKIES, EXPRESS and SURVEYORS' WAGGONS, Double and Single Harness, Saddlery, etc., both new and second-hand, at U.'s lowest possible prices. Inspection invited.
McNAMARA'S, 157 Castlereagh-street.
COOK'S VEHICLE EXCHANGE for High-class or Reliable New or Second-hand VEHICLES all descriptions. Big stock, worth seeing. At
218A Pitt-street.
HORSES and Vehicles of every description, Village Cart Turnout, £12; Sulky Turnout, £12; Baker's Turnout, £14; Hawker's Waggons, Sulkies from £5; Buggy £10. 41 Engine-street, Haymarket.
SPRINGCART Horse, Harness £7; Pagnel Cart, Horse, £6; Bradley Cart, Pony, Harness, £9; Richdale's Cart, Horse, Harness, £10; Draught Horse, £8. 397 Thomas-street, off Engine-street, Haymarket.
QUIET PONY, suit lady or childn., Sulky, and Harn., for Sale. Jones, Hatherley, Homebush-rd, Stratford.
TWO neat light Village CARTS, one suit 12-hd. pony, new, bargains. Cook's, 218A Pitt-st.
SHORTHORN BULL.—Wanted, high-class Shorthorn Bull, must have good pedigree. State full particulars, age, price, etc., delivered Sydney, to PEDIGREE, G.P.O.
FOR SALE, handsome brown Pony MARE, 12.2, fast and quiet, tram or any trial, 4 years; SULKY and Harness, used six months, £20.
Kyewa, Boundary-street, Roseville.
STYLISH Turnouts for Hire to-day, together or separate. Newland's Stables, back 128 Geo.-st W.
FARM Horse for Sale, with, without Van and Harn., very cheap. Hinley, Croydon-rd, Hunstville.
QUIET 14hd. Pony Mare, 3 yrs., Sulky, and Harness, all seasonable. Cottle, Vimiera-st, Eastwood.
COWS, Jersey and Guernsey, just calved, very quiet. Frost, off Northcote-st, Canterbury, near Barnes'.
WANTED to Buy, Dealer's Light WAGGON. Apply Friday morning.
RUTHVEN and SMITH,
Belmore Markets.
WANTED, quiet PONY, 14.2, fast, tram trial. F. Norris, Istria, Nicholson-st, Burwood.
WANTED to buy, Two Tipcarts and Harness. Apply F. Coghlan, 28 Dowling-st, Surry Hills.
WANTED, TURNOUT, suitable for laundry. 565 King-st, Newtown.
WANTED, Horse and Dray, for month. Price and particulars, Country, 129 Regent-st, city.
WANTED to Hire, month or two, Horse and Dray. Price and particulars, Country, 129 Regent-st, city.
DEAD and Worn-out Horses Bought. Highest price given. W. Tameth, Bank-st, Chippendale. T. 226 R.
DEAD Horses and Cows Bought, to 15s head; alive 7s 6d. J. Cunnold, 181 Bedford.
ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW, ROSEBERY RACES. SATURDAY.

PUBLIC NOTICES.

A GREAT SHOP FOR THE BEST LAWN MOWERS.
WOOD LATTICE WORK.
WIRE GARDEN ARCHES.
WIRE FLOWER STANDS.
CANARY AND PARROT CAGES.
CANARY BREEDING CAGES.
CANARY BREEDING REQUISITES.
CANARY AVIARIES, ALL SIZES.
WIRE GARDEN SEATS AND CHAIRS.
EASTWAY'S, THE WIREMEN,
GEORGE-STREET, 7 Doors Below Post Office.

THE QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.
BANKERS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF QUEENSLAND.
NOTICE is hereby given that INTEREST on the QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES and TREASURY BILLS, payable in this State on 1st January, 1909, will be paid at the SYDNEY BRANCH, 99 PITT-STREET, on production of the Coupons.
WILLIAM SEWELL,
Manager.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.
NOTICE is hereby given that the PARTNERSHIP hitherto existing between ALFRED LOHMANN and GOSWIN HERMAN BONER, trading at 7 and 9 Bridge-street, Sydney, 403 Collins-street, Melbourne, and at Bremen, as Merchants, under the style or firm of LOHMANN and CO., was DISSOLVED as from the 31st day of December, 1908, the said Goswin Herman Boner having retired from the Partnership as from that date. Dated this 31st Day of Dec., 1908. SLY and RUSSELL, Solicitors for Messrs. Lohmann and Co., 309 Geo.-st, Syd.
PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—NOTICE is hereby given that ALFRED LOHMANN (SCAL) GEORG PLATE, and GEORG WALDTHAUSEN have as from the 1st day of January, 1909, entered into PARTNERSHIP as General Merchants under the name of LOHMANN and CO., and that they will carry on such business at 7 and 9 Bridge-street, Sydney, 403 Collins-street, Melbourne, and at Bremen, in Germany. Dated this 31st day of December, 1908. SLY and RUSSELL, Solicitors for all parties, 309 George-street, Sydney.
THE PARTNERSHIP hitherto subsisting between the undersigned, carrying on business as Solicitors, at No. 99A Pitt-street, Sydney, under the firm-name of CAPE, KENT, and GADEN, has this day been DISSOLVED by mutual consent so far as regards ALFRED JOHN CAPE, who retires from the Firm.
The Remaining Partners will continue to carry on the Business at the same address, and under the same Firm-name.
Dated this 31st day of December, 1908.
(Sgd.) ALFRED J. CAPE.
(Sgd.) FRED. D. KENT.
(Sgd.) T. BURTON GADEN.
(Sgd.) C. B. CAPE.

WHY pay exorbitant prices for Spectacles when you can have each eye tested separately and have the very best lenses in solid nickel frames, 5s; Solid Gold, 12s 6d; Rolled Gold, from 3s 6d; Gold Filled, 10 yrs' guarantee to keep its colour, will stand the test of nitric acid, 7s 6d, with case; Brazilian Pebbles, 2s 6d; Double Vision, 5s 6d. R. Burnett, Scientific Optician, 569 Pitt-st, 3 drs. from the Water and Sewerage Board.

MADAME SPONTINI, Herbalist, M.A.H.U., Massage Rooms, Bull's-chambers, Moore-st, Sydney. Open from 10.30 till 5.30 daily for treatment of patients. Trained hospital nurses in attendance. "Pulsator," Vibratory, Electrical, and Manual Treatment given. Terms mod.

I WILL not be responsible for any DEBTS contracted in my name without my written signature.
C. BLACK,
Bourke-street, Zetland.

OERTEL'S CORDIALS have no equal for flavour, agglomerousness, moderate price. Tel., 268 Newtown.

JAMES H. ADGER, Skin Specialist and Hair Culturist, right opp. Australia Hotel. Tel., 1119 City.

LONGSHAW for Keys, Locks, and Repairs. Safes opened. Tel., 3231. 279 Pitt-st, next Sch. of Arts.

ASTOUNDING Bargains in every description of NOVELTIES, at 89 Oxford-st, Waverley.

I WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted in my name. Abraham Anderson, Gosford.
(For continuation see Index to Advertisements.)

FURNITURE, ETC.

FURNITURE,
ON TIME-PAYMENT AT CASH PRICES.
£5 worth, 5s deposit, 2s 6d weekly.
£10 worth, 10s deposit, 3s 6d weekly.
£15 worth, 20s deposit, 4s weekly.
£30 worth, 30s deposit, 6s weekly.
HOUSES FURNISHED TO £100 ON EASY TERMS.
J. DEVENISH,
313 PITT-STREET, between Bathurst and Park streets.
No Extra Charge for Terms.
Wednesdays Close 1. Saturdays Open till 10.

BILLING MACHINE.—No Billing as complete for BILLING Work as the "Remington" Billing Typewriter. Let us prove this to you.
We can refer you to hundreds of satisfied users.
STOTT and HOARE, Ltd.,
Moore-street, opp. G.P.O.

FURNITURE Bargains, owners leaving district, must sell. Call and Inspect. Rochdale Auction Rooms.

ADVERTISER will buy some sec.-hand Furniture, for cash. No dealers. J. T., P.O., Oxford-st, city.

COAL, FIREWOOD, ETC.

FIREWOOD MERCHANTS.—Cheapest Line Firewood on the market, in 5-ton truck loads, regular supplies. Price and particulars from
H. McKENZIE, Limited, Glebe Island.

HOUSES AND LAND FOR SALE.

LILIANFELS PARK, KATOOMBA,
AUCTION SALE, JANUARY 9,
ON THE GROUND, AT 3 O'CLOCK.
The Vendor has now given us HIS IDEAS OF PRICES, and we hasten to assure the Public that THESE PRICES ARE VERY LOW.
We are not surprised at this, as THE VENDOR, HAVING BOUGHT NOTABLY CHEAP, is able to realise the Lots MUCH BELOW THEIR REAL VALUE.
We have decided to fix the Building Restriction at £300 only, as this will prevent the erection on the Estate of any undesirable humpies; but otherwise leave purchasers ABSOLUTE FREEDOM AS TO THE CHARACTER of the dwellings they will erect.
THE SEVEN MOST IMPORTANT CLIFF FRONTAGES were not included in the recent Government purchase, and THESE SEVEN CLIFF FRONTAGES, which are the most desirable ever offered in Katoomba, WILL BE SOLD ON AUCTION DAY.
PIERCY ETHELL, AND CO.,
AUCTIONEERS, 3 MOORE-STREET.

ST. KILDA ESTATE,
SANS SOUCI—KOGARAH BAY.
WATER FRONTAGE BLOCKS, AT £2 PER FOOT.
THE ONLY WATER FRONTAGE BLOCKS LEFT. Big Depth of over 200ft to High Water Mark.
EASY TERMS.
GOOD BUILDING BLOCKS TO WIDE STREETS. ONLY FIFTEEN SHILLINGS PER FOOT.
EASY TERMS.
DEPOSIT, £1 PER LOT, MONTHLY 10s.
GAS AND WATER IN EACH STREET.
ASSISTANCE TO BUILD ON EASY REPAYMENTS. TORRENS TITLE.
THE HAYMARKET PERMANENT LAND, BUILDING, AND INVESTMENT COMPANY, LTD.,
750 GEORGE-STREET, HAYMARKET.
SWORN VALUATOR, Etc. ROBERT B. BARTON, Manager.

NEW SUBDIVISION, WITH VERY CHOICE RESIDENTIAL SITES, HAVING ELEVATIONS UP TO 225FT ABOVE THE HARBOUR, OF WHICH IT COMMANDS UNPARALLELED VIEWS.
10 MINUTES FROM CIRCULAR QUAY.
BERRY ESTATE, NORTH SYDNEY,
Accessible by Rail and Tram. Water and Gas Available on Estate. Roads under Municipal Control. Moderate Building Covenant to Protect Buyers.
EASY TERMS. TORRENS TITLE. ASSISTANCE TO BUILD.
PLANS ON APPLICATION AT OFFICES, ROYAL-CHAMBERS, 45 HUNTER-STREET; AND CROW'S NEST JUNCTION, NORTH SYDNEY.

CRONULLA—THIS AFTERNOON.
ABSOLUTE AUCTION SALE OF 20 FINE ALLOTMENTS,
near the New Tram Route, each about 50 x 132 . . . On the Heart o' Cronulla Estate, in that selection portion of this superb resort, "The Doctors' Corner." . . . Close to the Beaches, the Public Reserves, the Ocean, the Port, and the Bay. . . . The Fishermen's Rendezvous. . . . The Surfers' Delight. . . . Terms are easy, and a reasonable Building Covenant prevents undesirable tenements.
G. H. MOBBS and CO., Auctioneers, of Parramatta.

THE PROPRIETORS HAVING CEASED TO RESIDE IN AUSTRALIA, OFFER
FOR SALE,
THE HORNDALE VINEYARDS.
THE TWO VINEYARDS COMPRISE 478 ACRES, 288 PLANTED, FULL BEARING, VIGOROUS VINES, EXTENSIVE CELLARS, VATS, AND CASKS, UP-TO-DATE DISTILLERY, BONDED STORE, MANAGER'S RESIDENCE, EIGHT EMPLOYEES' COTTAGES, BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, STABLES, OUTHOUSES, AMPLE SUPPLY OF WATER, ALSO DAM, CONTAINING ONE MILLION GALLONS, EXTENSIVE PLANT, IMPLEMENTS, etc.
WITH OR WITHOUT
LARGE STOCK OF WINES AND BRANDY.
This Estate constitutes one of the finest, most complete, and up-to-date Vineyard Properties in Australia, situated in a picturesque spot in the beautiful hills which surround Adelaide.
The Property itself and all Buildings and Accessories of every description are in perfect order and condition, having been for 12 years and still being under the able management of the well-known expert, Mr. BERNARD BARDOW.
OVER 200 PRIZES AND AWARDS, including Champions, Specials, Silver Cup, Gold and Silver Medals, have been awarded to this well-known HORNDALE WINES AND BRANDY, which are SECOND TO NONE IN AUSTRALIA.
THE PRICE ASKED IS PARTICULARLY MODERATE.
All particulars from
GEORGE A. DAY,
c.o. HORN and CO.,
Currie-street, Adelaide.

LAND SALES AT MIDDLE HARBOUR.
ALL DAY TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.
SEAFORTH! SEAFORTH!
Right on Spit Heights, the picked position in Middle Harbour, between Balgowlah and Mosman, where so much money has been made. Seaforth is the right land to buy, the sure and certain profit is in the future. Glorious views, splendid air, attractions, enjoyments. Seaforth is central, convenient, close to Spit Ferry, with three roads, city water, etc. There are grand sites on easy terms from £1 down, 10s month. Torrens Title. Our representatives will be on the ground all day To-day and To-morrow to make sales. Plans and booklets free from
HENRY F. HALLORAN and CO., 87 Pitt-street, Sydney.

A BARGAIN AT AUBURN, 6 minutes from Station.—Modern Brick COTTAGE, verandah front, hall, contg. drawing and dining rms., 2 bedrms., hall right through, kitchen with stove and sink, bathrm., ldry. (fitted with copper and tubs), verandahs front, side, and back, the latter enclosed with glass; large block of land, nicely laid out, gas, and city water, £230, on very easy terms.
LANG and DAWES, at Station, Auburn.

SPECULATORS, now is your time, invest at Woy Woy before the prices rise. Torrens Title. Blocks next the station, 20s per foot; absolute Water Frontages, 30s per foot. Cottages, furniture, and land, from £75. Woy Woy has a very big future. Plans, photos, at 89 Oxford-street, Waverley. 'Phone, 330.

LADY leaving Bowral would like to sell large House, 5 Darlinghurst, £1600. Paper, P.O., William-st.

PALACE TO-MORROW. ROSEBERY RACES. HOLIDAY. SATURDAY.

AUCTION SALES.

AUCTION, TO-MORROW,
SATURDAY, AT 3 O'CLOCK,
ON THE GROUND.
LONG BAY! LONG BAY!
GRAND BUILDING ALLOTMENTS.
Splendidly situated, one minute tram, close to the beach, surfing, swimming in the baths, boating in the only Bay along the coast where boats can safely anchor.
TORRENS TITLE. THREE YEARS' TERMS.
Plans and all information from
HENRY F. HALLORAN AND CO., 87 PITT-STREET, SYDNEY.

TO-DAY, NEW YEAR'S DAY.
NARRABEEN AND BROOKVALE.
RICKARD'S TWO-HOLIDAY AUCTIONS,
ON THE GROUND, AT 12 O'CLOCK,
THE TRAM ESTATE,
BROOKVALE. BROOKVADE.
BIG LOTS GARDEN LAND, CLOSE TO NEW TRAM ROUTE.
TERMS: £1 DOWN, 10/ MONTH.
ON THE GROUND AT 3 O'CLOCK,
NARRABEEN BEACH ESTATE,
NARRABEEN. NARRABEEN.
MAIN ROAD AND WATER FRONTAGES,
BUSINESS SITES, WEEK-END AND BOARDING-HOUSE LOTS.
Special Buses leave Manly Pier at 11.15 a.m. TERMS: £2 DOWN, £2 MONTH.
SPECIAL RETURN FARES, 1s and 1s 6d RESPECTIVELY.
ARTHUR RICKARD AND CO., LTD.,
AUCTIONEERS AND REALTY SPECIALISTS.

CRONULLA—THIS AFTERNOON.
ABSOLUTE AUCTION SALE OF 20 FINE ALLOTMENTS,
near the New Tram Route, each about 50 x 132 . . . On the Heart o' Cronulla Estate, in that selection portion of this superb resort, "The Doctors' Corner." . . . Close to the Beaches, the Public Reserves, the Ocean, the Port, and the Bay. . . . The Fishermen's Rendezvous. . . . The Surfers' Delight. . . . Terms are easy, and a reasonable Building Covenant prevents undesirable tenements.
G. H. MOBBS and CO., Auctioneers, of Parramatta.

KENDALL GRANGE ESTATE,
LAKE MACQUARIE,
via Morniset Railway Station.
ON THE GROUND, TO-DAY, AT 2.P.M.
ABSOLUTE WATER FRONTAGES.
VIEWS OF LAKE FROM EVERY LOT.
TITLE, TORRENS.
TERMS: £2 Deposit, Balance £1 per month.
HUGH DUFF AND CO.,
283 George-street; and at Chatswood and Mosman.
CRONULLA BEACH,
Ewos-parade, near Heart O'Cronulla Estate.
W.B. COTTAGE, 3 rooms, kitchen, etc., land 50 x 120 ft, furnished throughout, close to the surfers' beach, and in first-class order. Let at 20s per week.
MOBBS and CO. will sell by public auction, on the ground, at the close of Heart O'Cronulla Sale, on NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1st JANUARY, the above sound Property.
Auctioneers' Office (at Stn.), Parramatta.
TO RAILWAY MEN AND OTHERS.
WILLIAM INGLIS and SON will sell by auction, at their Bazaar, on MONDAY Next, at 12 o'clock, on account of the Owners.
OBOE, Bay Horse, 4 years, by Holbrook from Clarionet, by Cheveden.
This Horse is a good performer, and ran second in the Carrington Stakes on Wednesday last.
CHESTNUT GELDING, about 14.1, 2 years, by Bonnie Chief from Portwitt, by Antimony; handled to lead only.
BAY FILLY, 2 years, by Bonnie Chief from Mercia, by Metal (imp.); handled to lead only.
BAY GELDING, 3 years, about 14.1 (brother to Musquet and Aurania), by Regained from a mare by Buenalf; broken to middle, but untried.
Full Particulars at Sale.

WHERE TO TO-MORROW!—To Freshwater, Manly, on the Beach, where ocean breezes blow. ERNEST C. V. BROUGHTON sells Ocean Frontages at 3.30 p.m. Also Cliff House, 6 rooms, splendid investment.
ROSEBERY RACES. TO-MORROW. ROSEBERY RACES. SATURDAY.

BRISK SALES.
RAILWAY STATION ESTATE,
CAMPSIE.
The numbers of
GOOD HOMES
we have erected there have
MOVED OFF RAPIDLY.
A convincing proof
of
BIG VALUE AND SUBSTANTIAL BUILDING.
TO-DAY
WE CAN OFFER YOU
TWO NICE W.B. COTTAGES,
five minutes from the station,
EACH WITH AMPLE LAND,
£225 and £250 EACH.
Inspection will result in Buying.
IF YOU PREFER to do your own building, we have some good sites in RAILWAY STATION ESTATE, at from £225 each, close to the station, and we will advance liberally to enable you to build.
OR,
if you care for other suburbs on the same line, we have nice Building Sites, also Cottages, near FERN HILL and WARDELL-ROAD RAILWAY STATIONS.
OUR USUAL EASY TERMS that thrifty people have been taking advantage of since we commenced operations 23 years ago.
OFFICE OPEN MONDAY EVENINGS, 6 to 9.
THE INTERCOLONIAL INVESTMENT CO., LTD.,
14 Moore-street, city. W. J. DOUGLAS, Manager.
KINGSGROVE.—45 Acres, Torrens, 3000ft main road frontage. Box 21, Newtown.
HARROW-RD, Stanmore.—Double-fronted Block of Land, Torr., terms. Box 21, Newtown.
CABRAMATTA.—38 ACRES, Torrens, permanent water, Cottage, cheap. Box 21, Newtown.
WOY WOY TOWNSHIP ESTATE.—3000ft absolute water frontage, in fact the only land obtainable close to the station with absolute water frontage. Blocks from £40 to any size, Torrens title. Decide now and resell later, big profits ahead. Apply to the owner.
WHAT do you think, Harry, dear? Phegan gives a Honeymoon Cottage, rent free to every cash purchaser of land. Let's closer a Block.
Plans, 89 Oxford-street, Waverley.
BALMORAL, Raglan-street.—Only 3 Lots left; £2 deposit, balance 20s monthly. 1 minute from the beach and tidal pool. Torrens title.
ERNEST C. V. BROUGHTON, 118 Pitt-street.
BEXLEY.—New Year's Gift, worth £1300, ideal Home, 9-room Brick HOUSE, charming view of bay, large grounds, 10 min. walk from rail, sell £850.
Bonoma, Herald Office.
BONDI, on the Heights, with Ocean Views, superior new Brick Cottages, 4 to 8 rooms, kitchen, etc, from £420 to £625. Apply at New Building, Alfred-street, Bottom of Birrell-street.
WHERE TO TO-MORROW!—To Freshwater, Manly, on the Beach, where ocean breezes blow. ERNEST C. V. BROUGHTON sells Ocean Frontages at 3.30 p.m. Also Cliff House, 6 rooms, splendid investment.
LATEST Buildings, cheaper than W'boards, new, special designs, plans, etc., £2 2s. W.F. Padey, Orange.
BARGAINS.—Big Blocks, 10 min. stn., 15s foot, 40 down, £1 month, no int. M. Cohen, Drummoyne.
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